

PCC meeting symbolized PLO's unity, official says

AMMAN (Star) — "There is no doubt that the meeting of the Palestine Central Council of the PLO in Tunis was unique, decisive and totally successful," a Palestinian official told The Star, on Wednesday.

He said the meeting of the PCC, which was held between 4-7 August, was unique in the sense that it was the first time that the council conducted its work in an intensive session aiming at confronting and containing the difficult situation which the Palestinian liberation movement is going through.

It was decisive, he said, not only in attempting to solve the urgent matters on its agenda, but also in examining the possibilities of the future and defining its position regarding the developments, whichever direction they may take.

The official, who asked not to be named, continued to say that the meeting of the council proved that the legitimate institutions of the PLO are still actively pursuing their duties, in spite of the "Beirut earthquake". All Palestinian groups attended with the exception of the PFLP.

General Command, which sent a statement apologizing for not being able to attend. The official said that due to unforeseen circumstances they had to cancel their trip to Tunis.

OAPEC meeting fails to resolve Iraqi-Syrian dispute

TAIF, Saudi Arabia (AP) — The 10-nation Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) ended a ministerial meeting here Wednesday after failing to resolve a dispute between Iraq and Syria over the suspended Kirkuk-Basra oil pipeline.

The official Saudi press agency said the ministers declared the sessions ended, two hours after the Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Yamani opened discussions.

The United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mana Saeed Oteiba told reporters that the meetings covered all topics on the agenda and that the ministers endorsed procedural statutes of the OAPEC judiciary body.

He added that the Syrian delegation voiced certain undisclosed reservations on the statutes. He gave no details.

The judiciary body was to examine an Iraqi complaint against Syria, which had closed a oil

pipeline running through its territory from northern Iraq oilfields.

The meeting was attended by the oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Libya, Iraq, Bahrain, Tunisia, Algeria and Syria.

They were to meet on three fronts: as members of OAPEC, as the Arab members of the 13-nation Opec, and as members of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC).

The Iraqis have complained to OAPEC that they have not been able to ship their crude oil through regular oil tanker routes of the Gulf, largely because of the 35-month-old war between Iraq and Iran.

The Iraqis have been trying to offset this by pumping their crude oil from the northern Iraqi oilfields to terminals in Turkey.

Palestinians under occupation say 'yes' to Arafat as leader

WASHINGTON (Star) — The overwhelming majority of Arabs living under Israeli occupation who were questioned in a recent poll supported PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat as leader.

The results of an opinion poll conducted in the West Bank and Gaza Strip last month by the Jerusalem-based Al-Baydha weekly magazine, were published.

A random selection of 777 citizens were questioned on different issues relating to the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. The poll, which is the second of its kind that the publication has conducted.

On the question of whether Mr. Arafat should remain as the leader of the PLO, 95 per cent said yes and 5.4 per cent said no. About 72 per cent expressed support for the peace process while 23.5 per cent objected.

Sixty-nine per cent of people questioned said they did not believe that the United States could exercise practical pressure on Israel. About 27 per cent said no and 3.7 per cent said yes.

On the question of Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon within an American framework, 68 per cent said yes while 16.8 per cent said no. Seventy-five per cent supported the Arab peace plan of the Fez summit while 16.5 per cent rejected it. The poll revealed an increasing trend among Palestinians to establish contacts with the peace movement. More than 50 per cent encouraged such contacts and 32 per cent expressed no opinion on the subject.

Twenty-six per cent of people questioned represented the professional and white collar sector, 11.5 teachers and 6 per cent farmers. More than 80 per cent were males.

Massive Libyan onslaught reported on Faya Largeau

NDJAMENA, Chad (Agencies) — More than 5,000 Libyans and rebel mercenaries supported by Libyan tanks, artillery and air bombardment launched a massive onslaught Wednesday morning on the strategic northern oasis of Faya Largeau, the Chad government announced.

Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat told a news conference the enemy advanced in two columns, from north and west, on the virtually isolated government garrison.

He said the backbone of the Libyan-commanded pincer movement on the oasis comprised 2,000 Libyan regular troops. "Our latest information is that the government garrison is holding its own," he added.

Western military sources said some 2,500 men, the bulk of Harbre's army, is locked up in Faya Largeau, recaptured from the rebels on 30 July.

The attack was launched just hours after the arrival of the first contingent of what is expected to be a total of 230 French paratroopers who are to act as advisers to Harbre's army.

Sources in Ndjamena said a vanguard of about 30 paratroopers crossed the Chari River from neighbouring Cameroon and arrived in Ndjamena before dawn Wednesday.

In Paris, a spokesman for the rebels claimed Faya Largeau had been completely overrun by the attackers. The spokesman for the Libyan-backed Chad Government of national Unity (GUNT) said the oasis was 100 per cent under rebel control.



A Libyan pilot is displayed to French troops in Ndjamena on Monday.

Diplomatic sources, meanwhile, said American military instructors and advisers' forces would be reinforced and there was no question of sending American troops to Chad.

Two American A-10s surveillance fighter escorts were standing by at the Chad border to observe Libyan military movements around the beleaguered garrison at Faya Largeau, 500 miles north of Ndjamena.

Blood boils in Lebanon Wazzan strikes as Syria urges revolt against Gemayel

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon's Prime Minister staged a day-long protest strike and Syria's state-run media called on Wednesday for the overthrow of President Amin Gemayel's regime for allowing Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens to visit Beirut.

Prime Minister Shafiq Wazzan, a Muslim, cancelled all office appointments, boycotted the regular weekly session of his 10-man cabinet and stayed home the whole day to protest Mr. Arens's visit to Beirut's Christian sector on Tuesday.

Information Minister Roger Shikhanl told reporters Mr. Wazzan would not carry his protest to the extent of resigning, although a leftist Beirut newspaper and a leftist-controlled radio station said Mr. Wazzan might step down.

Mr. Shikhanl said Mr. Gemayel, a Christian, and Mr. Wazzan were united in rejecting "practices and behaviours that hurt state authority or constitute a challenge to the government."

The statement appeared designed to dispel any impression of disagreement between the president and his prime minister. "Both are determined to co-operate to surmount all difficulties," Mr. Shikhanl's statement added.

Several cabinet members, including Foreign Minister Elie Salem, spent most of the day with Mr. Wazzan at home, trying to ease his rage over Christian politicians and militia commanders who met with Mr. Arens, government sources said.

Other Muslim politicians were also outraged.

"I am shocked over the visit," said elder statesman and ex-Premier Saeb Salam. "The tragedy is that he (Arens) was received with full honours that reached the extent of a salute by an illegal (militia) guard of honour in the capital of the constitutional legitimate authority."

"I also believe Mr. Arens was rude in coming. His visit hurts the feeling of every honest citizen who still has a glimmer of hope that national unity (in Lebanon) could be restored."

As-Safir newspaper said Mr. Wazzan raised the idea of quitting in a meeting he held on Tuesday with Sheikh Hassan Khaled, spiritual head of Lebanon's Sunni Muslim community, but no final decision was reached.

Mr. Arens met on Tuesday another Lebanese elder statesman and ex-President Camille Chamoun, head of a coalition of right-wing Christian groupings, known as the Lebanese Front and the commander of the Front's Lebanese Forces militia Fadi Frem.

The newspaper Al-Bath of Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad's ruling Socialist Baath Party labelled the Arens visit a challenge to Lebanon, Syria and the rest of the Arab world.

"The visit confirms that the (Gemayel) regime has severed all ties with the people," Al-Bath said in an editorial broadcast by Syria's state radio.

"The visit also shows that nationalist forces in Lebanon are right in giving top priority to bringing down the regime."



Fairuz enjoys a welcoming cup of coffee at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel on her arrival on Wednesday. From left to right, Lebanese artist Nidal Ashkar, Fairuz, Intercontinental General Manager Antonius Mueller, Jerash Festival Director Mazen Armouti. (Picture by Hassan Ibrahim)

Fairuz arrives in Amman

By Khader Mansour
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The internationally-renowned Lebanese singer Fairuz arrived in Amman on Wednesday after a tense week during which her departure from Beirut was prevented by the shelling of the city's airport.

It was announced that Fairuz's performances at the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts, which had been scheduled for the beginning of the festival and were sold out, would now take place on Friday and Saturday, 19 and 20 August. Tickets for the earlier planned concerts will be valid for the rescheduled ones.

The famous artist, in an exclusive interview with The Star, said that she planned to meet Her Majesty Queen Noor during her stay in Jordan. "I am happy to be in Jordan for the second time," she said. "I consider my voice to be the warmest greeting I could give its people."

During the airport bombardment, which began on the day that she was scheduled to fly, a member of Fairuz' troupe was injured. The experience did not stop the group from fulfilling their commitment to their audience, however.

During the brief interview in her hotel room, Fairuz said her dearest wish was "to see again our beautiful, beloved Lebanon—peaceful, prosperous and cheerful."

US officials visit Damascus

DAMASCUS (AP) — US Deputy Secretary of State Thomas Nassif met on Wednesday Syrian State Minister for Foreign Affairs Faruq Al-Sharh and discussed the Middle East situation and bilateral relations, a Syrian government spokesman said.

The spokesman, who declined to be identified, said the talks centred in particular on the situation in Lebanon as well as bilateral relations and means to improve them.

Mr. Al-Sharh reiterated Syria's opposition to the Lebanese-Israeli troop withdrawal accord and said the US alignment with Israel constitutes the main obstacle facing Lebanon's recovery of its sovereignty and unity, the spokesman said.

Mr. Nassif told the Associated Press after the meeting he plans to present a report on the situation in the Middle East to the Foreign Relations Committee at the US Congress when he returns to Washington.

Mr. Nassif's visit to Damascus came a few hours after that of another US official, Richard Fairbanks, Assistant to US envoy to the Middle East Robert C. McFarlane.

Mr. Fairbanks returned to Beirut on Wednesday afternoon after meeting with Shareh and Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul-Halim Khaddam.

Mr. Nassif, who had arrived earlier in Damascus, said he would visit Jordan and Lebanon during his current Middle East tour.

Manoeuvres begin in Egypt amidst Arab discontent

CAIRO (AP) — Joint US-Egyptian manoeuvres designed to train American soldiers to fight a Middle East war officially opened Wednesday with little fanfare amid signs of growing Egyptian sensitivity at its role in the operation.

The exercise, code named Bright Star, will involve some 5,500 troops of the US Rapid Development Force, organized to protect US interests in the Middle East, and an equal number of Egyptians. The manoeuvres, which run until 10 September, also involve smaller operations in Sudan, Oman and Somalia for a total of 7,000 US troops in all four countries.

Although Bright Star officially got underway Wednesday, it was understood the first field manoeuvres would not begin for another week or so.

US troops would spend their first days getting used to the local climate while US and Egyptian logistical officers received a stream of American equipment for the operation.

Sources also reported that the US aircraft carrier Eisenhower, which has been operating off the Libyan coast, was expected in Alexandria on

Thursday for a five-day visit. A US embassy spokesman said the carrier's presence was a routine port call unrelated to the exercise and the fighting in Chad.

The Americans, operating from a suite in a luxury hotel, take inquiries from reporters and forward them to the Egyptian Defence Ministry. The ministry has refused to allow US army photographers to take pictures of preliminary operations and Western reporters who photographed convoys between Alexandria and Cairo had film confiscated.

On Wednesday, however, Foreign Minister Kamel Hassan Ali denied there was any news blackout on Bright Star and promised that Egyptian military spokesmen would release information on major developments.

The restrictions were seen as a sign of Egypt's sensitivity to criticism from other Arab states that it has become an instrument of US military and foreign policy in the Middle East. Egypt has frozen relations with Israel and refused to return its ambassador to Tel Aviv in hopes of mending

fences with other Arabs, especially pro-Moscow Syria.

Last week the United States dispatched two airborne surveillance aircraft to Egypt capable of monitoring military movements in neighbouring Libya.

Egyptian officials have sought to justify the exercise by describing it as necessary to train their own forces in operating new sophisticated US weapons.

Critics of the exercise have charged that the principal threat to Egyptian security comes from US-backed Israel and not from any power outside the region.

Last year Egypt refused to participate in a similar US exercise, called Jade Tiger, presumably in protest over the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Reaction in the Gulf

Newspapers along the Gulf region denounced the staging of US military exercises in the Middle East as aimed at spreading American control over the whole area.

The Americans are manoeuvring to reassert their control throughout the region, said the radical Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Naba. The coincidence that Bright Star exercises were staged by the Americans in four Arab states while the Pentagon was seeking to force Gulf oil sources to be built for the US army divisions to be built for the US Gulf oil sources in the event of a crisis.

Al-Watan said that Soviet danger was a pretext for American intervention in the region. Another radical newspaper, the daily Al-Rai Al-Am, also denounced the US for threatening Libya under the pretext of the alleged intervention in Chad.

It claimed that the United States was camouflaging its involvement in North Africa by mobilizing its naval forces off the Libyan coast.

In the United Arab Emirates, the government newspaper Al-Wakeel denounced the US exercises for turning the Gulf region into an arena for the Americans to display their muscle to the world.

INSIDE

- Jordan — Arab publishers regret book fair's location: page 3
- Plea for preservation of valued antiquities: page 4
- Economy: Alla keeps flying high in 1982: page 5
- Middle East — Kuwait grapples with its stock market crisis: page 8
- World — Peace movement takes aim at missiles: page 11
- Analysis — The sudden collapse of Sudan's great hopes: page 13
- Society — Music professor celebrates 13th birthday: page 21
- Star Kids — Shishan dancing kids do it with pizzazz: page 25



A dazzling show: Special Section on the Jerash Festival, pages 15—18

Arab children start visiting Jordan sites

AMMAN (Star) — Arab children in Jordan as part of the Common Heritage programme visited Aqaba on Wednesday. They toured various parts of the city and the port of Aqaba, where they heard about the importance of the city to Jordan.

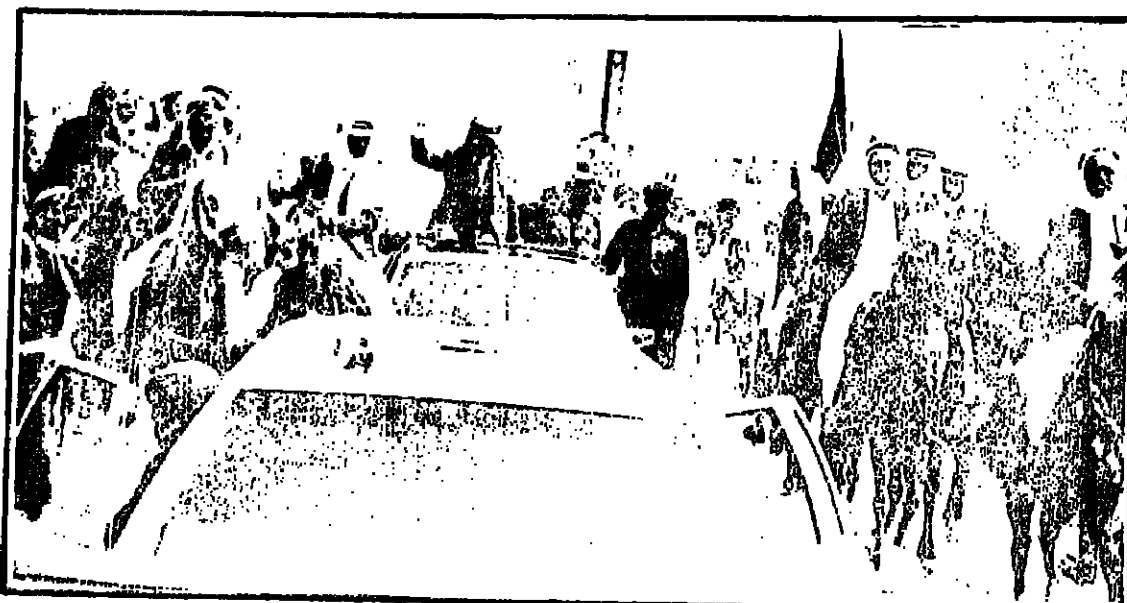
The children attended a celebration at the beach, during which "dabke" and other folk dances were presented by the Aqaba and Ma'an youth centres.

The group was expected to visit Petra on Thursday.

There are 105 children in the children's programme, representing the UAE, Bahrain, Tunisia, Algeria, Sudan, Somalia, Iraq, Oman, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Kuwait, North Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

Jordan is represented by 21 children. The visitors will spend a day with Jordanian families, with each family playing host to two children.

The visiting children started arriving last Saturday. (see page 3)



HIS MAJESTY King Hussein paid a visit to Ma'an on Tuesday and met the people of the governorate. In a speech he delivered in Ma'an, the King praised Jordanian achievements and urged for further co-operation between the people and the government to execute development plans. The King inspected the Ma'an housing project, and the glass factory where he laid down the cornerstone for one of the factory's kilns.

Ambassador praises close Indo-Jordan relations

AMMAN (Star) — Indian Ambassador to Jordan P.L. Santoshi pointed to his country's participation in the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts this year as a sign of the close co-operation between India and Jordan.

"We are happy to participate in the second Jerash Festival... under the guidance of Her Majesty Queen Noor," the ambassador said in a statement on the 36th anniversary of India's independence. "Such participation will contribute to the strengthening of friendly ties between the peoples of India and Jordan."

Pakistanis recall birth of nation

AMMAN (Star) — The Pakistani community in Jordan on 14 August celebrated the Independence Day of Pakistan "with great zeal and fervour," embassy officials said. In the morning, a flag-hoisting ceremony was held at the chancery which was attended by Pakistani nationals including embassy officials. Prof. Ehsan Rashid, the ambassador of Pakistan, raised the flag and made a brief speech, highlighting the significance of the day and urging greater dedication to the principles which guided the struggle for Pakistan.

In the afternoon, a colourful cultural programme, organized by the Pakistani Women's Association of Jordan, was held in the auditorium of the Ministry of Culture opposite the embassy.

Publishers predict losses due to low sales at book fair

By Hamdan Al-Haj
Star Staff Writer

JERASH — Participants in the First Annual Arab Book Fair, organized in conjunction with the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts, are finding the location to be less than ideal, say some.

In interviews with The Star, several of the foreign publishers who came to display their wares at the fair said that the proximity of the festival's many other entertaining and cultural events drew away customers and made for bad business.

Muhieddin Abdul Qader, Director of Dar Al-Kitab publishing house in Cairo, told The Star, "The fair should be for books only. It should be held in a convenient place for the reader to examine books. But to be held along with the Jerash Festival has diminished its importance."

"No scholars or researchers have visited the fair," he said. "We expected many orders for books by officials, institutions and others. But unfortunately none has shown up." All the people who attended were there as a byproduct of their trip to see the festival's amusements, and had no interest in new books, he said.

He said that besides the JD 10 per square metre fee for booths at the fair, the participants paid for their own lodging in Jordan and for all transportation.

Rifai Sa'ad, owner of another Egyptian publishing house, Al-Kitab Al-Jam'i Al-Hadith, also complained. "We were told that 250,000 people would crowd the festival," he said; "but so far we haven't seen 250. Government representatives have not come...but we expect more people to come before the end of the festival. If not it will be a catastrophe."

A Syrian participant, Mr. Mohammad Ahmad of Dar Al-Fikr in Damascus, agreed that the festival atmosphere was to blame for slow business at the book fair. In most book fairs, "intense selling takes place during the first day or two," he said. "That hasn't happened here yet. The case is quite the contrary. Apparently the festival affects sales. Usually there is a normal place where the reader can find his books."

"We pay for every step," he said: "for accommodation, for bringing the books into the country and also for our place at the fair. We may end up with a loss if more people do not come and buy."

The booksellers were not the only ones to be disappointed with business at the festival. Sales were also seen to be low at the booths offering handicrafts. Mrs. Halja Mohammad Yassin, representative of the Brotherhood Society which was offering traditional embroidered dresses for sale, told The Star, "People attending the inaugural day of the festival bought; but now the business has dropped off."



Members of an Arab children's delegation

Common Heritage visit starts as groups arrive

By Mohammad Hejazi
Special to the Star

AMMAN — Arab children's delegations this week started to arrive in Amman upon the invitation of Her Majesty Queen Noor, at the beginning of the Common Heritage Programme.

Children from Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, UAE and the Sudan arrived on Saturday. There were four from each country, between the ages of 10 and 14.

Queen Noor initiated the programme in 1979, the International Year of the Child, to embody Arab unity and to symbolize the bonds of love and understanding among Arabs.

Mrs. Hiyam Al-Faraj, an executive of the programme, said that this year's slogan is "Common Arab Culture". A

programme of visits has been prepared for the guests, on which they will see important sites in Jordan and to learn about Jordan's burdens in defending the Arab cause.

Somalia is participating for the first time this year, said Mrs. Faraj. The general co-ordinator of the programme, Mr. Akram Masarweh, said that this meeting aims at bringing up a united Arab generation through the unified Arab culture. This year there will be 20 Jordanian participants instead of the original four. Jordanian children are trained in a five-day programme, to serve as guides for the guests.

The visiting chaperone of the Bahraini delegation, Mrs. Farida Al-Joshi, told The Star, "Our participation was in response to the invitation extended by Queen Noor."

King receives German team

AMMAN (Star) — His Majesty King Hussein on Monday received a visiting West German parliamentary delegation led by Hans-Juergen Wochnewski, Deputy Chairman of the Bundestag Foreign Relations Committee.

The delegation also met National Consultative Council Speaker Suleiman Arar and Foreign Minister Marwan Al-Qasem to discuss the Middle East situation.

The West German embassy in Amman, for unexplained reasons, refused to allow The Star access to the visiting delegation.

'Ain Ghazal diggers find six more statues

AMMAN (Star) — Archaeologists excavating the seventh-millennium BC clay statues at 'Ain Ghazal have given up on the attempt to remove them from the ground piece by piece after finding that there are at least 10 of the statues, The Star learned.

Dr. Gary Rollefson of Yarmouk University, Co-Director of the 'Ain Ghazal dig, told The Star that in the course of conservation work it was found that there were several more of the 80-centimetre-tall figures underneath the four which had originally appeared at the top of the pile. The number of smaller figures, which were found in a stack at the statues' feet, has grown to 12, he said.

The digging season at 'Ain Ghazal ended two weeks ago but a few staff members remained to assist conservator Kathy Tubb of the London Institute of Archaeology in her attempt to preserve the unique statues. The original idea had been to dig around their sides and remove the whole pile of statues in a block. The extremely delicate clay pieces could then be worked on in a laboratory.

After the logistics of the block-removal plan were found to be too difficult, Mrs. Tubb began the painstaking task of taking out the statues and small figures piece by piece, after applying a consolidant solution to help to hold them together. After several days of this work the size of the task grew tremendously and the archaeologists returned to the idea of lifting them all out as a whole.

Dr. Rollefson said the block, which would be padded around the sides, on top and bottom with polystyrene foam, should end up being only about 10 centimetres thick. This indicated the tremendous amount of crushing and compaction the statues had undergone. He hoped to have the whole job finished by the end of this week.

Another startling find, removed from the ground on the last day of digging at the site, was a group of four skulls, of which two were plastered and the other two bore signs that they might also have been plastered at one time. This made even firmer the cultural link with Prepottery Neolithic Jericho that had been established by the finding of the statues and other archaeological evidence.

The 'Ain Ghazal skulls are different from the famous ones of Jericho in that instead of a full-face "mask" of plaster they have plaster only in the eye sockets. The lower half of these artificial eyeballs is painted black, possibly to suggest pupils.

Jerash—sights and sounds of a home town

By Leila G. Deeb
Star Staff Writer

THE ANCIENT city of Jerash, now in ruins, was once a place where people walked, talked, ate, sang and danced — a city of life and beauty.

Such sights and sounds have been absent from Jerash for centuries, but the 1983 Jerash Festival revived them. True to their word, the members of the Festival Committee and the workers, all volunteers, brought back the history of the place. The carnival atmosphere was there; but the feeling was more the relaxed one of a hometown.

People — singly, in pairs, groups or families, sauntered about, stopping to sample a falafel sandwich here, and a piece of Circassian halva there, drinking water from the taps or buying soft drinks. All this in between attending the various functions, whether free in the Forum, or ticketed at the Artemis Steps or the South Theatre.

It was a long way to come for most — those coming from Amman, Irbid or any other city in Jordan. But whether they drove there or took a bus down, they found the parking lot waiting for them, with a polite and efficient traffic policeman waiting to guide them to a parking space. A bus was there, free of charge, to shuttle them to the fenced-in ruined city.

Although it was announced that buses would be available to shuttle people back to the parking lot, there were none when our group left. But a kindly soldier driving an army bus took pity on us. He waited until he had almost a full load and drove us to our destination.

At the Book Fair, most booths were still half-empty. Some Jordanian books



Young people enjoy a rock concert in Jerash's main street

were not available; and although the Egyptian booths were ready, their prices were not what was expected. Dr. Ahmad Sharaka, Director General of the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives, had told The Star last week that one Egyptian pound would be valued at 750 fils. But to our regret, a book selling at E£ 1.100 sold at JD 1.100.

All the shows our group was able to view, whether partly or fully, were successful. The Kuwaiti group gave a most creditable performance, surprising those unfamiliar with Kuwaiti folklore with the beauty, rhythm and performance of the songs and dances.

It was most gratifying to see the performers enjoying themselves very much, while connoisseurs of Kuwaiti art applauded, kept time with the music and clapping, or made special requests. One unusual bit we noticed was a rhythmic alternating clapping done without missing a beat by at least 30 men.

Next came the Argyls. Scotsmen stationed in Cyprus, they are familiar to Ammanites through their performances on special British occasions. Dressed in blue and green Government Tartan plaids, they played such familiar tunes as Scotland the Brave, and other medleys.

But what fascinated many people was the question: do they or don't they? Most came to the conclusion that they didn't. In spite of the heavy sporrans and the weight of six metres of woollen fabric preventing the plaided kilts from flaring out too much. But Captain Andrew Campbell, Adjutant of the Battalion, told The Star when asked: "I'm afraid I wouldn't have the answer to that."

Dr. Wilbert LeMelle, of the State University of New York at Albany, was very pleased to hear the approval of our group after watching the unusual acting-mime-singing performance of Sleeping Beauty story in Japanese.

Gorgeous is the word for the costumes of Sardinia, in beautiful reds, whites and gold embroidery, set off by the black over white veils of the women, which gave the circular dances of this Italian island a jewel-like effect. Most outstanding was the twinkle-toed step of the male dancers, light of foot, faster than lightning. Not to be missed for anything.

The magic of China was manifest not only in the Hanjo Aerobatic Troupe's superb art, but in the greeting they carried to the people of Jordan and their expression of friendship. Attended by His Royal Highness Prince Abdallah Ibn Al-Hussein, the performance started with the most agile acrobatics most of us had ever seen. This performance was slightly disturbed by a fell one of the acrobats took — short, but hard, on the stone floor of the stage at the South Theatre. Rattled, in pain, the brave young man got up, shook his head and forced himself to continue.

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Shultz's 'humanitarian' plan found impractical

Continued from page 1

The State Department attempted to act as an innocent bystander and say repeatedly that it has nothing to do, or, rather the Secretary of State, has nothing to do in ordering the study. But informed sources at the State Department, which the Middle East Policy Survey is quoting stated that "This

study is being done because Shultz requested it. The secretary asked for the paper," State Department sources said.

State Department sources pointed out that Shultz' motivation was based on "humanitarian concern," for the plight of the Palestinians, however, there may also be a practical side to the

secretary's idea. Many Lebanese consider the influx of Palestinians into their country since 1967 as a major source of their subsequent problems, as the survey states clearly.

Sources in Washington said the Lebanon has requested the United States' help in resettling at least 200,000 out of the nearly half a million Palestinians in Lebanon. According to Lebanese sources, some 100,000 Palestinians hold Lebanese passports and about twice that number are under the care of the United Nations. The present Lebanese government would clearly prefer that the remaining 200,000 quietly emigrate.

According to US sources there were other factors which contributed to the axing of the idea. The Office of the Immigration and Naturalization Bureau considered the idea as "short madness from an immigration and political standpoint."

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A plea for restraint at the Jerash Festival

By Khader Mansour
Star Staff Writer

THE JERASH Festival of Culture and Arts, as exciting as it may be in entertainment value, seems to be irrelevant to the ancient site and may even do it irreparable damage, says a respected Jordanian scholar.

Dr. Fawwaz Tuqan, a professor at the University of Jordan and expert in Islamic art and antiquities, said in an interview with The Star that he did not "expect much attention to be directed towards the subject" of Jordanian antiquities at the festival.

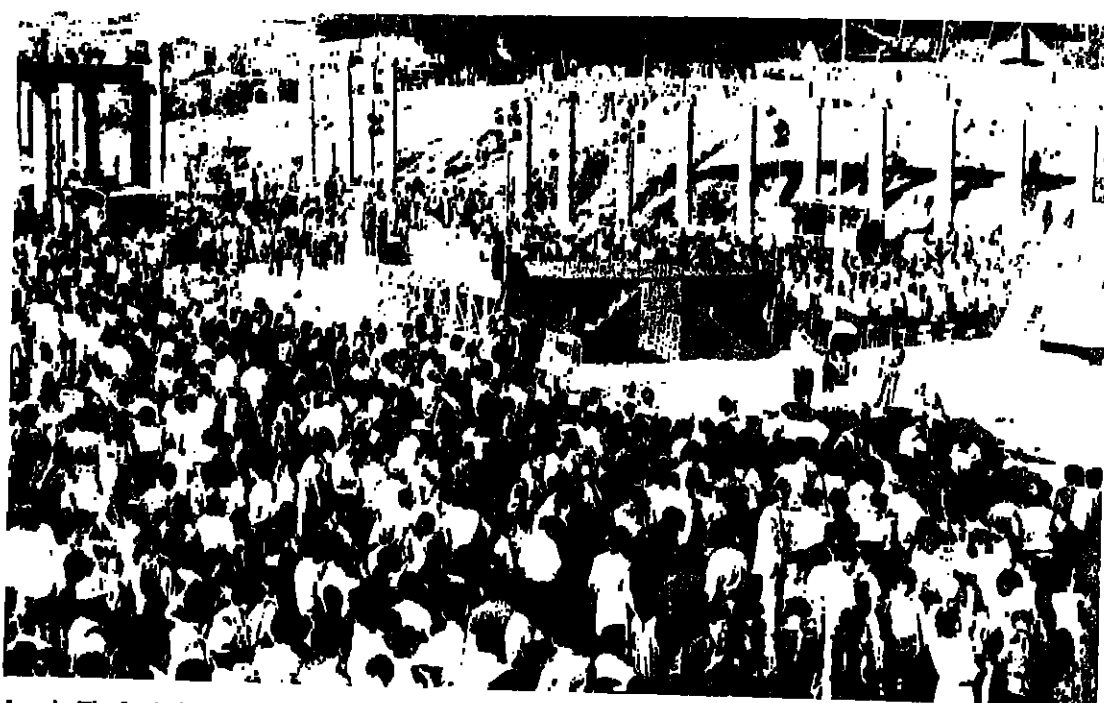
"Perhaps the mere fact that people will go to old Jerash might arouse in them the curiosity to visit the place at a later time and inspect the antiquities of Jerash," he said. "In this respect, one might assume that the festival served the purpose."

But, he said, "As a rule, I am strictly in opposition to the use of such precious relics for gathering tens of thousands of people at one time. You murder the place..."

"...The place is not guarded, has no protection against damaging acts and is going to be littered with garbage and human wastes. I am so sad that the government in the first place allowed such a thing. We inherited Jerash covered with earth and preserved from natural weathering. We uncovered the city and exposed it to our modern time pollution and ignorant individual destruction... now we are unleashing all possible sources of pollution, littering and destruction to work against this remarkable heritage."

Dr. Tuqan himself has done some work in promoting public awareness of antiquities. This includes two documentary films that have been shown several times on Jordan TV — in three versions each, Arabic, English and French. The films were on Islamic antiquities and holy places in Jordan and Palestine.

"I am sure a film solely on antiquities (in general) will do a great deal for



Jerash: The festival irrelevant to the site?

the promotion of our heritage and prompt people here and abroad to visit the area," he said. "My TV programmes, which are in a way a series of documentary films, served a great deal in this respect... a series of films and programmes on the antiquities of Jordan in general... is a must. We have all



Fawwaz Tuqan

the facilities and the personnel to do them."

Asked about his specialty of Islamic antiquities and what attention had been paid to them by foreign missions, he said, "Much care has been given to Islamic antiquities by foreign missions. The most outstanding work has been done by the Spanish in Qasr Amra in the early 1970s."

"But the unfortunate misdeeds which foreign parties perpetrated against Islamic antiquities in Jordan overwhelm their scholarly work in this field. The catastrophic removal of Qasr Al-Mushatta facade is unexcusable. The dismantling of Qasr Bayr by Peacock Pasha in the early 1930s is abhorrent."

He mentioned also the use of Qasr Al-Hallabat and the neighbouring Qasr Hammam Al-Sarah as an artillery practice target by British gunners in the early 1950s, and the "obliteration of

the ancient mosque of Amman by Peacock Pasha in the late 1920s."

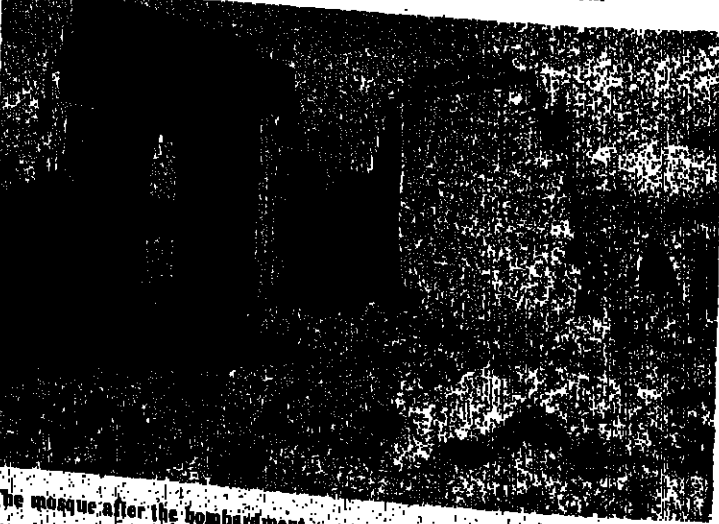
This mosque, he said, was described by Arab writers and geographers as a small and marvellous mosque fully ornamented with mosaics dating back to the Umayyad period.

"Much of the excavations conducted by foreign missions in search of Biblical, or to be exact, non-Islamic sites, ignore and in many cases destroy Islamic findings on the surfaces while digging deeper for what they were looking for. One blatant case is Sigfried Horn's dig at Hishab."

"He was so eager to reach deeper levels in order to prove that the site is Biblical. In his enthusiasm, he literally bulldozed all the Ottoman, Mamluke and early Islamic strata to save time in reaching to what is below them."



The mosque at Qasr Al-Hallabat before the British bombardment



The mosque after the bombardment

But regardless of what have done or not done, here are not interested in our antiquities in Jordan," he said. "The greatest problem then was what are the criteria which choice; how far in respect should we proceed, and so on."

"It is next to impossible to start an overall programme to serve and reconstruct all the antiquities in Jordan," he said. "The greatest problem then was what are the criteria which choice; how far in respect should we proceed, and so on."

"The two governments directly responsible for the reconstruction of the site, namely the Department of Antiquities and the Ministry of Tourism, have done all which is possible within their budgets. Their budgets are limited. Without direct outside assistance, an expensive endeavour is fulfilled."

But by way of criticism, he said, "is there a policy, a clear and defined policy, regarding the preservation and reconstruction of antiquities in Jordan? As a deeply interested citizen, I can say with ease that no such policy, at least none for the public."

"The second criticism is: people in government should have courage is: Do you have a policy and have you approached the Arab and international community concerned with antiquities in this way?"

Dr. Tuqan expressed a pessimism with regard to Islamic antiquities. The Ministry of Antiquities, directly responsible for all Islamic antiquities, such as mosques, shrines, and tombs, are in use, but the problem is when ancient and unused places are questioned. "For example, the mosque and important old mosque at Al-Hallabat. To whom does the ownership belong?"

"It is a mosque. Yet, it is a larger archaeological complex. Umayyad palaces contain a mosque, at least. Should the Ministry of Antiquities control all such mosques? How to handle any excavation project?"

"Unfortunately, the two do not see eye to eye on the subject of the time. Should we have departments of antiquities working in the same country, one for archaeological sites and the other for religious sites? And who is to decide which is before the excavation or reconstruction?"

Ironically, he said, if there be two departments, "a third department of antiquities should be created, that is to say, for the Christian as well. Obviously, such a move is illogical. Some sort of a conference or learned seminar ought to be held in which such matters should be fully discussed and solutions formulated."

In the early 1970s, Dr. Tuqan, an adviser to the then director of antiquities, the late Ya'qub 'Umayyad, reached to one proposal, the reconstruction of Qasr Al-Hallabat and the Hammam Al-Sarah. The latter was re-done, however, the former, at high expenses, was not, although very good excavation, as preliminary construction, was conducted by Ghazi Bisha."

Alia report highlights continued profitability

By Steven Ross
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, recently released its Annual Report for 1982 — showing a good amount of justifiable pride in doing so.

The report, while couched in the determinedly cheerful language that is habitually used for such purposes, has little need to fudge any facts, for Alia in 1982 finished its operations in the black for the 10th straight year.

"To our pride and satisfaction the airline has successfully completed a full decade of uninterrupted profitability, in spite of the world airline industry's chronic economic problems," says Alia Chairman and President Ali Ghandour in his statement introducing the report.

On the subject of growth, however, Mr. Ghandour admits that during 1982 it was "modest, rather than record-breaking." Passenger traffic increased by only 4 per cent; but he points out that in the context of the international industry this is outstanding — being four times the estimated growth rate for all IATA carriers.

"We concentrated our energies on improvements in preparation for the next two decades symbolized by our new home, Queen Alia International Airport," Mr. Ghandour says. He makes reference to several new steps taken in 1982, including the opening of the Alia Housing Estate, the start of operations by the Iraqi-Jordanian company Arab Air Cargo and start of flights to Istanbul and Belgrade.

The report states prominently the fact that the year's operating profit figure — JD 17.83 million — is the highest ever recorded, and represents an 85.9 per cent increase over 1981. But net profit is only JD 1.44 million, which is almost 24 per cent down on the previous year.

Total operating revenue was JD 122.12 million, from which operating profit is derived after subtracting operating expenditure. Total expenditure is given as having been JD 128.1 million, 19.6 per cent more than the previous year. Besides the jump in operating profit, the largest

change in the "Economics" column of the report is a 53.8 per cent growth in non-operating expenditure — from JD 15.48 million to JD 23.81 million.

Working capital increased more than 200 per cent, from JD 2.86 million to JD 10.25 million.

Explaining the low net profit figure, the report points out that Alia is under a "heavy obligation" to pay interest on long-term loans it took in the past few years to buy new aircraft. More than 12 per cent of all revenue earned went out in interest payments, it said.

Moreover, "losses in foreign exchange transactions given the adjustment made to long-term loans, reflecting the much stronger dollar, also eroded profits."

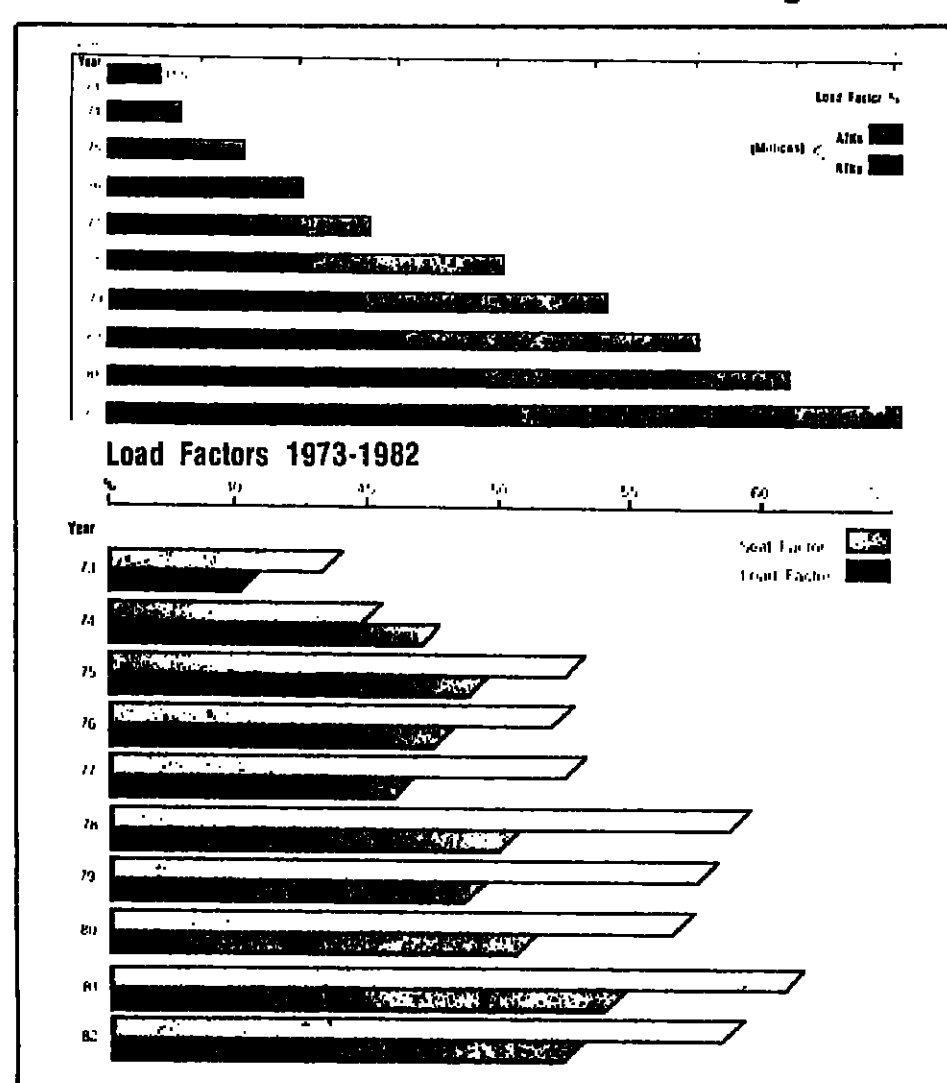
Under Expenditure Distribution, interest and other miscellaneous expenses account for 18 per cent of spending. Flight operations accounted for 30 per cent of expenditure, while under Revenue Sources, passengers and cargo provided 71.3 and 15.2 per cent respectively.

Traffic did not quite keep pace with capacity growth during 1982. The load factor (proportion of revenue tonne-kilometres to available tonne-kms) was 53.3 per cent, down from a peak of 54.7 per cent in 1981. The seat factor also dropped by 2.2 percentage points, but remained substantially higher than the load factor (see diagram).

Cargo and mail tonne-kilometres grew at an aggregate rate of 16 per cent during the year. The highest growth was within the Middle East, but cargo routes to the United States also showed a substantial increase of 41.3 per cent (revenue-tonne kilometres).

Alia also contributed to cargo service through its joint ownership, with Iraqi Airways, of Arab Air Cargo. The firm started operations in 1982 with two Boeing 707 aircraft, concentrating on Europe and the Gulf.

Another co-operative venture Alia took part in was the establishment of Sierra Leone Airlines, the West African state's first international carrier. Alia provided training, technical and management assistance, and leased a Boeing 707 to the newborn line.



"Alia began implementing a wide range of programmes aimed at preparing the new airline for totally independent, safe and modern international operations within the next three to five years," the report says.

Looking ahead on its own part, Alia expresses confidence in two major tools: its creative marketing campaign and the new Queen Alia International Airport. These, it is hoped, will help ensure continued profitability and success.

Farmers air their complaints

Solutions sought for marketing problems

By Hamdan Al-Haj
Star Staff Writer

MI'ADDEH, Northern Jordan Valley — The current difficult marketing situation may require farmers to adopt innovations in production, sales and management, say agricultural officials concerned with the Jordan Valley. Farmers who have relied too long on tomato growing for their financial support need to break out of their mould and explore new possibilities.

Mustafa Jardaneh, an agricultural engineer working with the Jordan Valley Farmers Association (JVFA) in Mi'addeh, told The Star that the problem of marketing needed intensive study; but it should concentrate on finding alternatives for farmers.

He said many farmers were afraid of such innovations. "But here appears the role of agricultural guidance and government officials, to encourage farmers and protect their investment, to ensure that they can sell their products."

Mr. Jardaneh said that a few farmers had already shifted from tomato growing to such crops as strawberries and potatoes.

Fahd Al-Natour, head of the irrigation department at the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), agreed that the planting of new crops was a possible way to help solve the marketing problem. But he suggested several others, including a search for local or regional markets, mechanisation and "co-operative buying of inputs and even co-

operative farming under a wide management."

Marketing was at the forefront of the complaints of a group of Jordan Valley farmers who spoke with The Star recently. The farmers — Jamal Masalha, Mized Hamdan, Okab Mohammad and Ahmad Abdul Hadi — pointed to an alleged lack of government assistance in relieving them from the plight of tomato overproduction.

The farmers said that the government-owned tomato paste factories, whose purpose is to give farmers an outlet for tomatoes that can't be sold elsewhere, impose a loss on the farmers, whose expenses can come to JD 200 per dunum of tomatoes planted.

"Markets of the neighbouring countries are closed," one of them said. "Some farmers have started to export their produce, to Europe independently. We attribute this to a lack of co-ordination between the farmers and the marketing authorities. Why doesn't the Agricultural Marketing Organization do its job?"

(The Agricultural Marketing Organization, an earlier attempt to solve the marketing problem, is soon to be replaced by the newly formed Company for Agricultural Processing and Marketing. The price of tomatoes at the tomato paste plants was recently fixed at 55 fils a kilo — see page 7.)

Mr. Jardaneh said that the tomato paste factories, trying to help farmers cover their costs in times of tomato glut, provided transportation and crates, or inputs, for the tomatoes free of charge. But the farmers complained about these efforts strenuously. Inputs are

often unavailable, they said; and "even if they are, they are of different shapes and sizes, by which farmers are confused."

One of the farmers added: "If we come to the weighing process at the factory, we find it is the most miserable of them all. If a car of 100 inputs enters the factory, two of them are chosen and weighed at random, and the price paid for the whole load based on that weight. Cancellation because of claimed damage is 15-20 per cent."

Another one said, "Sometimes we plant a crop and get nothing back, or just break even. Is there anyone who can compensate us for the loss?"

The new era of large-scale farming made possible by modern methods has left them open to big losses, they said. And despite the advances of sciences, there were new diseases that were unknown to the agricultural extension officers. Drugs and agricultural equipment were rapidly increasing in price. For irrigation, water is also very expensive, they complained (Dr. Natour said the JVA charges 3 fils per cubic metre of water).

The farmers also charged that land made newly usable by reclamation projects is distributed unfairly. "How can it be right for a man with no experience in farming to get as much as or more than landowners who have spent most of their lives in the field?" one of them said.

Dr. Natour said the distribution of land was based on the amount already owned by each recipient.

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16-19 October 1983

Yarmouk University is sponsoring a conference on concrete technology for Developing Countries on October 16-19, 1983. The intent of this conference is to present and discuss various aspects of concrete technology. Representatives from Industry, Universities, Building Research Centres, Engineering Associations, Government Agencies, Private Sector, and individuals from the Civil Engineering Profession are invited to participate in this conference.

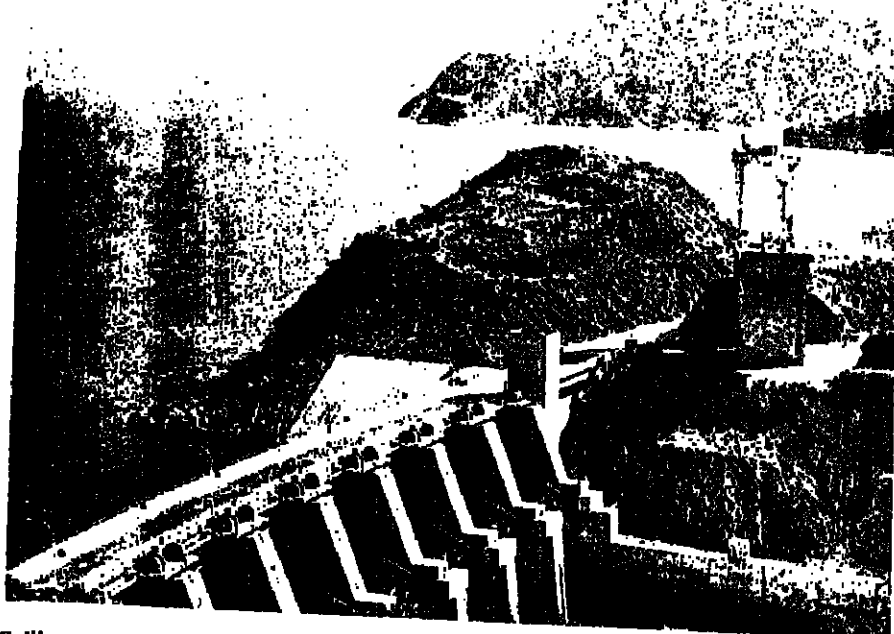
TOPICS:
The topics may include, but are not limited to, the following subjects:
• Hot Weather Concrete
• Precast Concrete and Masonry
• Prestressed Concrete
• Segmental Construction
• Material Properties and Construction
• Form Works
• Repairs and Maintenance
• Quality Assurance
• Alkali Reaction
• High Strength Concretes
• Special Concretes

REGISTRATION FEE:
A registration fee of 50 dollars will be charged from every participant.

LANGUAGE:
The conference language is English which will be used for papers, presentations and discussions.

For more information:
Please contact Dr. Mohamed A. Shiyab
Department of Civil Engineering Yarmouk University, Irbid
Telephone: 71100 Ext. 2441

PAKISTAN:



Spillways of Pakistan's Turbela Dam

By Azim Kidwai
Special to the Star

PAKISTAN'S SIXTH five-year plan, launched in July this year, lays special emphasis on the development of science and technology. It provides for effective measures to speed up Research and Development (R & D) and promote real progress in various fields of science.

Spending on R & D, which previously amounted to 0.16 per cent of gross national product (GNP), has been increased more than three-fold. It provides for an expenditure of 6,000 to 6,500 million rupees as against 2,000 million spent during the last five years.

Universities

Scientific research in universities has been allocated about 30 per cent of the total amount earmarked for R & D. The present research activity is to be accelerated and made more goal-oriented. The universities, now largely teaching institutions, are to be made real fountainheads of research and development.

New facilities for doctorate studies will be provided and the present ones further improved.

The new measures are expected to raise the present standard of post-graduate studies, as well as to increase the number of PhDs produced by the universities.

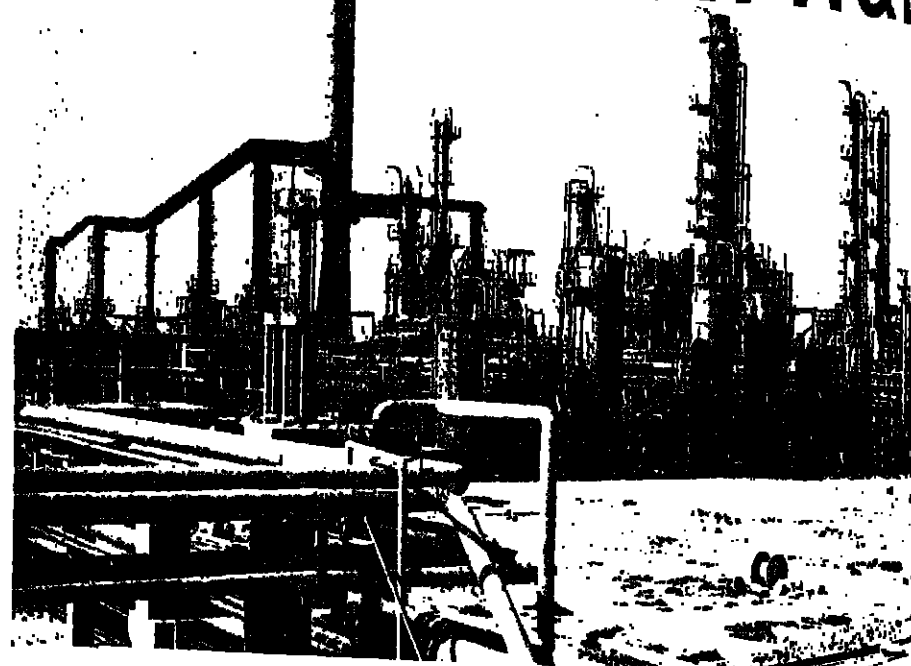
International Institutes

Two new institutes of international standard will be created. A sum of 1,500 million rupees has been provided for the construction of an Advanced Institute of Technology and Basic Sciences, where the terms and conditions of service and work will be calculated to attract the best Pakistani talent.

Studies in new and emerging technologies such as genetic engineering (bio-technology), micro-electronics, computers, and environmental engineering will be available at the institute. A division of futurology will also be created there.

Another international-level institute to be established under the sixth plan would focus on water-logging and salinity research. Water-logging and salinity, a major problem facing Pakistan, needs extensive research. The institute will make in-depth study of the problem to find effective measures for its solutions. Adequate funds have

New stress on R&D



The National Oil Refinery in Karachi

been provided for the construction, equipment and efficient working of the institute.

National Institutes

In addition, a number of national institutes for road and building research, desert studies, oceanography, hydrology, dairy science and clinical research are to be established during the next five years. A sum of 155 million rupees has been earmarked for this purpose. At the provincial level, several institutes of rural technology will be opened to promote development in the rural areas.

The nationwide network of institutes being established under the sixth five-year plan is expected to give an effective push forward to the present process of development and transfer of technology. The National Centre for Technology Transfer (NCTT) supported by the provincial Technical Advisory and Development Centres would be at the hub of this activity.

The NCTT, manned by distinguished experts, will, in addition to other functions, furnish advice about the import of technology, its best use in view of national needs and the impact it will have on local industry.

The provincial units would serve as a relay transfer agents, providing technical assistance to the industry.

Private sector role

At the moment, almost all the R & D being made in the public sector; the private has little participation. The new plan provides special measures to remedy this situation.

In the first instance, engineering and consultancy services will be encouraged. Various incentives will be offered to private sector organizations to pace up their R & D efforts.

The common man is to be involved more actively in programmes of technological development in urban as well as rural areas. Multi-pronged approach will be adopted to reach message across to the bulk of the population. Mass media — radio, television, newspapers — will be used for regular science-oriented programmes. A sum of 80 million rupees has been allocated for the establishment of science and technology centres.

All these, like other measures in the sixth-year plan, are aimed ultimately at furthering the common man's quality of life.

Indonesian car engine factory to start up in 1984

DIAKARTA (OPECNA) — Indonesia will start producing its own car engines by 1984 under a two-phase development scheme in co-operation with Japan.

Preparations for the establishment of a joint venture for a manufacturing plant have already been finalised between Japan's Mitsubishi Corporation and Krama Yudha Tiga Berlian of Indonesia. The plant will produce 4,500-cubic-centimetre engines, suitable for minibuses and two-wheel cargo trucks.

Under the first phase, the plant will start in September 1984 begin producing about 5,300 engine units a month. Several components, such as rings, belts and spark plugs, will be Indonesian-made. Capacity will increase to 10,000 engines a month under the second phase, which will require an investment of \$130 million.

Industry Minister Hartarto said the plant was confident the motor vehicle industry would reach full manufacturing capability according to the timetable fixed by the government. According to these projections, Indonesia should be able to end imports of auto parts and components by 1988.

He said the development of the industry was important not only because it was part of the national industrialization strategy, but also to increase the value added to its products and to save foreign exchange.



Rawlings: Hands tied by Ghana's need for foreign currency

All these will limit Rawlings' ability to live up to his promise to improve conditions for Ghana's poor.

There has already been agitation following July's meagre daily minimum wage increase from C21.19 to C25.

Certainly that wage rise came nowhere near compensating for the huge increase in the cost of imported goods.

Probably the only way that Rawlings can meet IMF conditions and still live up to his political promises is if massive aid is released to the country after the IMF package. The signing of an IMF programme does tend to give other finance institutions more confidence in the country concerned and thereby increase aid flows.

An international donors' conference for Ghana is scheduled for November in Paris but Ghana will have to repair its relations with the US to receive the sum it requires. Accusations, subsequently withdrawn, that the US had backed anti-Rawlings plotters, have soured relations between the two countries recently.

Rawlings' only other possible course of action is to request the de facto devaluation and do without IMF support. However, this could have equally disastrous political effects. If the government rejects the IMF conditions it is unlikely to find another source of finance, and would have to reduce imports to virtually nil, crippling industry and agriculture.

The latest attempt was put down by loyal forces but 50 of Rawlings' most committed opponents escaped from jail during the fracas. Almost all have military skills and if they have escaped over the border to Togo, no friend of Rawlings, they could organise a more efficient coup attempt in the near future.

Other conditions attached to the IMF aid could also cause Rawlings difficulties. Washington sources say there will be ceilings on domestic credit extension, a requirement for phased reduction of external arrears, limits on the contraction of new foreign loans, and wage restraint requirements.

IMF conditions threaten Rawlings regime

By Gillian Gunn

LONDON (ONS) — Ghana is likely to receive a much-needed economic boost from the International Monetary Fund this month in the form of a 12-month \$255 million standby facility, according to American sources.

However, the conditions attached threaten to undermine the stability of the government and could trigger Ghana's third coup in four years.

The main condition for IMF support to Ghana has been devaluation. Ghana's currency, the cedi, has long been sold on the black market at less than a tenth of its official value, and its over-valuation has distorted foreign trade. The ruling Provisional National Council, which took power in a coup for the second time in December 1981 and is led by Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, has stubbornly resisted such a move.

Rawlings clearly remembers the 1972 coup which deposed the democratically elected President Busia following dissatisfaction with his devaluation.

In April this year Rawlings tried to meet the IMF half way. He retained the official exchange rate of C2.75=\$1 but provided for massive surcharges of either 7.5 or 9.9 times the official rate on all imports. Bonuses of the same proportions are paid on all exports with the aim of encouraging domestic output.

These moves have in fact created a dual exchange rate of C23.375=\$1 and

Iraq faces two tough alternatives for oil

By Robert Poullot
Star Economy Analyst



BAGHDAD'S OIL diplomacy should be carefully watched over the next few months. For it could seal the fate of its nearly three-year-old war with neighbouring Iran.

And that could be for the best or for the worse.

At stake is money. As we forecast in spring, it is the very survival of a whole nation checked off from its traditional means of income, petrodollars, due to a two-way blockade of Iraqi exports: an offshore one engineered by the Iranians and an onshore boycott staged by Syria to prevent the use of a strategic pipeline.

Thus, instead of the normal 2.4 million barrels a day it used to export before the war erupted, Iraq is currently shipping a third of that.

And with a war bill running at \$1.5 billion a month, there is no wonder why the government was recently compelled to call for gold and precious metal donations from the public at large. Results: over \$600 million were collected to finance the war effort. And more recently, bids were called to install a printing press and a mint. As if inflation wasn't high enough!

To stay afloat and pay its mounting foreign debt, Iraq would require a minimum level of 3 million barrels a day worth of exports. And as time goes by, with an expenditure budget slated at \$27 billion this year, that critical threshold would need to be increased by 25,000 barrels a month if the war goes on.

The pressure is thus extremely heavy on the Iraqi leadership to find immediately new outlets for the country's petroleum.

Basically, there are two options.

If Syria says yes

The first is to mend fences with Iran's ally, Syria. For the time being, the country's shipments are confined to the pipeline leading to Doryol, in Turkey. But there is hope that the Syrian government may reconsider its boycott of Iraq by reopening the Iraqi-Syrian pipeline in the last quarter. The line has a throughput capacity of 650,000 barrels a day and could yield an extra \$600 million a month for Iraq.

What could move Damascus to reopen the tap is a recent offer made by Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia for a long-term crude oil contract to replace the current Iranian deal. The agreement would also be sweetened by a substantial, yet unspecified, grant by Gulf oil producers to Syria.

Were Damascus to accept, it wouldn't alter much of Opec's current pro-rationing strategy. According to several oil analysts, including Philip L. Dodge, Vice-President of the New York brokerage firm of Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette, Opec producers will have to lift their current production ceiling of 17.5 million barrels a day by late 1983 to avoid an unwarranted shortage on the international market.

Dodge forecasts that the ceiling must be increased by at least 2 million barrels a day to meet growing demand due to the industrial world's economic recovery.

Significantly enough, according to BP and Shell industry data, the world inventory levels of crude oil and refined

products are projected to drop by 20 per cent over the 1982-83 period, thus bringing back the stockpile to a mere 87 days' supply by year-end, exactly where it stood on the eve of the Iranian revolution in 1978.

Meanwhile, industry margins, the spread between crude cost and retail selling prices of refined products, are improving significantly in Western Europe, particularly in France and the United Kingdom, thus prompting new open-market purchases.

That explains why Mexico, Venezuela, the USSR and Iran were able to up their prices for lower quality crudes in preview of the inventory replenishment for the cold season.

The Exocet alternative

However, if Syria rejects the latest Saudi offer, Iraq will be left with no other choice than to escalate its military pressure on Iran by using Exocet missiles against the strategic Kharg Island oil terminal.

In early June, Baghdad reportedly signed a leasing agreement with Avions Marcel Dassault/Breguet Aviation and the Societe Nationale d'Etude et de Construction de Moteurs d'Aviations of France for five Super-Etendard fighter-bomber planes equipped with Exocet AM-39 air-to-surface missiles.

The deal would allow Iraqi pilots, now undergoing intensive training, to fly the jets by late October or early November.

So nothing could really happen before the end of the year. But if Iraqi pilots prove successful in their attack on Kharg Island, it will be up to other Opec nations to make the difference.

Iran is producing about 2.4 million barrels a day, of which about 1.8 million finds their way on to the world market, with the balance retained for internal consumption. Unless Opec immediately took over from Iran, there could easily be havoc on the international scene at the start of winter.

Yet, warned Tehran, which was immediately rebuffed by Washington's State Department, the close-down of the Kharg Island terminal would trigger an Iranian armed blockade of the entire Gulf area.

And no doubt, the Iranians would try it, even if it meant the intervention of other regional or superpower forces.

The whole bloodstream of the Arabian peninsula would be choked, and the conflict could affect world crude supplies for weeks, if not months.

The message of Husseln

So the message of President Saddam Hussein is pretty clear. Just as Iran was salvaged by Opec a year and a half ago from virtual bankruptcy, when Tehran militarily threatened Gulf states if it wasn't allowed to export more of its crude, Baghdad is directly challenging Iran and, indirectly, its neighbouring Arab brethren to force Syria to accept Saudi Arabia's latest proposal.

The bet is one of life or death for Iraq as a nation. But, as is well known in the Middle East, all scenarios eventually prove to be wrong. Syria might refuse, Iran may be willing to challenge the Exocet but the Gulf might never be closed. Who knows?

JVA awards North Shuneh irrigation system contract to South Korean firm

By Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Hanbo General Construction Company of South Korea has been chosen to install an irrigation pipe network over more than 10,000 dunums in the North Shuneh area of the Jordan Valley, a Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) official says.

Hanbo, which submitted the low bid of JD 4.5 million for the job, will construct the network over 1,250 hectares, the official told The Star. It will include a carrier pipe from the Wadi Arab Dam, which Hanbo is also building under a separate contract.

The project is similar in design and concept to one that is already being implemented in the southern Jordan Valley by Italy's Impresit Costruzione. The network is broken up into farm units of 30-40 dunums, each of which will have its own turnout with a flow metre.

Farmers own buy pipes and irrigation equipment with loans from the Agricultural Credit Corporation.

The Hanbo contract will be the completion of work in that area, the official said. JVA has already put extensive effort into developing infrastructure (roads, schools etc.), and all that remains is the irrigation civil works. This con-

tract is financed jointly by the Japanese Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund and the Jordanian government.

The irrigation systems to be installed incorporate modern techniques of pressurised sprinkler irrigation and drip irrigation. Irrigation will be introduced for the first time in some of the areas covered, but about two-thirds of the area involves conversion from old surface irrigation techniques to the new methods.

Steel pipe is to be used for the carrier pipe from the Wadi Arab Dam. For the network itself, pipes from 250 to 700 millimetres in diameter will be of ductile iron; smaller ones will be of PVC (polyvinyl chloride).

Tomato paste price rebounds

AMMAN (Star) — The government has reversed a decision to lower the price paid for tomatoes it uses to produce tomato paste at the Jordan Valley plant.

The new decision brings the price back up to 55 fils a kilogramme from 35 fils a kilo. The plant started purchasing this year's crop last Saturday.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET REPORT

Volume bounces back

By Mamdouh El-Ghaly

THE HANDLING volume during this week was 107 per cent of that during the week before, as big deals reappeared in all sectors.

In the banks sector, the handling of Cairo-Amman Bank stock came to about JD 1.25 million, divided between two contracts. Petra Bank also moved about JD 330,000 divided between two big contracts.

In the insurance sector there were two contracts for Al-Izdihar Insurance stock, amounting to JD 210,000. In the services sector there was one big contract, in which the stock of the Arab Investments and Development Company was sold for nearly JD 250,000. In industry, one contract involving the stock of the National Industries Company amounted to JD 193,000.

All these big contracts are notable for the fact that they were concluded by individual investors. The recession which has dominated the market for the past three months thus would seem to be ending.

Stock prices, are generally low, and this is an opportunity for investors to buy stock for speculation.

About 920,000 shares were handled this week at a market value of over JD 3.35 million divided among 1,000 contracts. Average daily handling jumped to over JD 670,000, with a deviation of 39 per cent or 7.8 per cent of total handling, an indication of instability.

Banks

The banks sector maintained the lead occupying 72 per cent of the market, a decrease of 5.2 points compared to last week. Five out of 16 banks occupied 88.5 per cent of the sector or 63.5 per cent of the total. Cairo-Amman Bank had 50 per cent of the sector or 36 per cent of the total, followed by Petra Bank 15.2/10.9 per cent, Arab Bank 11.6/8.3 per cent, Bank of Jordan 6.9/4.8 per cent and Jordan Securities Corporation 4.8/3.5 per cent.

Industry

Industrials occupied 15.8 per cent of total handling, a retreat of 1.9 points compared to its market share the week before.

Within this sector five out of 32 companies occupied 66 per cent of the sector or 10.4 per cent of the market. They were National Industries Company with 36.6 per cent of sector or 5.8 per cent of total, Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural with 10.3/1.6 per cent, Jordan Tobacco and Cigarettes with 7.4/1.2 per cent, Jordan Petroleum Refineries with 6/0.9 per cent and National Steel Industry with 5.7/0.9 per cent.

Services

The services sector occupied 8.3 per cent of total handling, an increase of 5.4 points over last week. One out of eight services companies accounted for 80.2 per cent of the money changing hands in this sector or 6.7 per cent of the total: the Arab Investments and Development Company

Insurance

The insurance sector occupied 3.8 per cent of total handling, an increase of 1.6 points.

One company, Al-Izdihar Insurance, out of 10 companies, occupied 62.2 per cent of sector or 2.4 per cent of total handling.

The stock of 66 companies was handled during this week. Price retreats outnumbered advances 34-17. Notable gains included Al-Quds Insurance, closing at JD 2.150 up from JD 2; Petra Bank at JD 7.400 up from JD 7.000; General Mining Company at JD 2.190 up from JD 2.100; Jordanian Ceramic factory at JD 1.090 up from JD 1.050, and Arab Finance Corporation, closing at JD 1.930 up from JD 1.880.

The Jordan Securities Corporation closed at JD 1.600 down from JD 1.860; Arab Investments and Development at JD 1.300 down from JD 1.500; Arab Contracting and Investment at JD 0.690 down from JD 0.750; Arabian Seas Insurance at JD 3.900 down from JD 4.220, and Jordan Worsteds Mills closed at JD 3.250 down from JD 3.500.

Fifteen companies showed no change in their stock prices. Stock prices in general decreased during the week by an average of 1.6 per cent.

In the over-the-counter market about 300,000 shares were handled, at a market value of JD 225,000.

The weekly record

- A. Stock showing a price increase
- B. Stocks showing a price decrease
- C. The mean record figure

Kuwait makes efforts to solve crisis

By Star Kuwait correspondent

KUWAIT — The National Assembly (Parliament) has passed a controversial bill forwarded by the Kuwaiti government with the aim of solving the crisis resulting from the local unofficial stock market known here as "Al Manakh crisis". The bill has since been endorsed by the government.

Immediate relaxation in the Kuwaiti market in general was the spontaneous response to the approval of the bill which in fact led, in the past three weeks to hectic debates inside the official circles and on the level of the man of the street.

Even Kuwaiti parliamentarians were divided among themselves on the issue. The bill which was passed by a 3 to 1 majority in the Kuwaiti Parliament calls for the settlement of shares dealings at the original market price plus a maximum 25 percent as a profit. The Kuwaiti government believes



Sheikh Sa'ad Al Abdallah Al Sabah

that this measure will reduce the number of bankruptcies among dealers from a total of 1680 down to 500.

Al Manakh crisis now in its second year has been causing great anxiety and has affected Kuwait's economic and social structure. The crisis can best be described as a disaster which emanated from a control lacking market where share buyers used post-dated cheques to gain imaginary profits, one economist said. The Kuwaiti government, had vowed on various occasions that the crisis would in no way be allowed to affect the national economy or Kuwait's economic reputation.

Several attempts to solve the crisis which attracted the attention of many economists world wide were made in the past but all were in vain. The new bill passed after three days of hectic debates stipulates the punishment of fraudulent dealers with five years imprisonment and fines up to 5000 Kuwaiti Dinars.

Kuwaiti heir apparent and Prime Minister Sheikh Sa'ad Al Abdallah Al Sabah opening the extraordinary session of the Parliament said "history will judge our performance". He attributed failure of previous attempts to solve the crisis to "greed".

According to Kuwait Minister of Commerce and Industry Mr. Jassem Al Marzuqi the new bill will cut down the indebtedness by 40 per cent. No authentic figures as to the total amount involved are available, but according to stock market sources, the book value of the Manakh market transactions is roughly estimated at 27 billion Kuwaiti Dinars, but the actual volume of debts would be greatly reduced when the disengagement process is completed.

Located in the banks' quarter of Kuwait, the Manakh market is a commercial complex occupied by brokers and executives of some

closed companies dealing mainly in Gulf shares and real estate. The 153 offices were operating since 1979 at a site to which camels were brought from various parts of Kuwait for sale hence its name "Al Manakh".

Until recently, dealings in the Manakh market were concluded according to "the word of honour or the gentleman agreement" without the need for any official or legal guarantees. "But as the market was unofficial and highly speculative it was no longer logical to depend on the word of honour and here was where the crisis started to emerge", noted one economist.

Pakistan marches towards progress

By Mohammed Khan

Special to the Star

THE ISLAMIC Republic of Pakistan came into existence on 14 August, 1947. Thus the people celebrated the 36th anniversary of attaining nationhood Sunday.

History
This apparently young state has its roots deep in the remote past. The Stone-Age relics found in the Soan Valley of Potwar region have a probable antiquity of about five hundred thousand years. The Red-ware and Bull-ware cultures of Baluchistan developed about 3000 B.C.

Muslim rule in the sub-continent began with the Arab conquest of Sind by Mohammad bin Qasim in 711 A.D. and expanded rapidly. Caliph Hisham (724-743) extended Arab rule to Kashmir and Kangra, and Caliph Mansur (754-775) to Kandhar. Harun Al Rashid (786-809) extended the frontier of Sind further to the west.

The Arabs ruled for three centuries. They were succeeded by Turks. The Ghaznavides, a Turkish dynasty, rose in Afghanistan and under Sultan Mahmud, further consolidated Muslim rule in the sub-continent. The early phase of Muslim rule in the Northern plains, generally referred to as the Sultanate (1206-1526) was followed by the Mughal reign which, beginning in 1526, continued flourishing till the death of Aurangzeb in 1707 and survived till the War of Independence in 1857. The British rule began with the occupation of Bengal in 1757 and lasted for about two centuries.

Geography
Pakistan covers an area of 8,03,943 square kilometres and extends from latitude 24 to 37° N and from about longitude 61 to 75° E. It comprises four provinces — the Punjab, N.W.F.P., Baluchistan and Sind. Islamabad is the Federal capital and Karachi (population 5.5 million) the largest city. Pakistan's climate is continental having extreme disparities. Generally, summers are hot and dry in the plains but pleasant in the hilly north. When the southwest monsoons begin in July the temperature drops and humidity increases. Winters are pleasant in central and southern plains and cold in the northern and western highlands. The average annual rainfall is approximately 50 centimetres.

Population
In 1981, Pakistan's population was 82.6 million, half of it being under the age of 15. The growth rate of population is 3%. In 1978 it was rated as the sixth most populous country in Asia. More than 70% of the population live in the rural areas. The main centres of population are Karachi, Lahore, Hyderabad, Faisalabad and Rawalpindi.

Economy
Productivity figures indicate a sustained increase over the past several years. GDP has maintained an average growth rate of 6% and per capita income has risen to \$380. Agriculture is the dominant sector of the economy although only 24.3% of the land is cultivable. It represents 30% of the GNP and employs 53% of the workforce. Main crops include rice, wheat, sugarcane, maize and cotton. Rice and cotton are the principal foreign exchange earners, accounting for 40% of the export earnings.

Pakistan has a fairly diversified base in manufacturing, ranging from essential consumer goods to chemicals, steel, heavy engineering, machine tools and textiles. Pakistan's trading position was adversely affected by the increased price of petroleum in the recent past. It faced deficit in its external trade account. Imports of raw material and capital

Mujahideen attack Kabul

NEW DELHI (AP) — Afghan Mujahideen launched a three-pronged attack on Kabul last weekend, resulting in what Western diplomats called the heaviest fighting in the capital in three years.

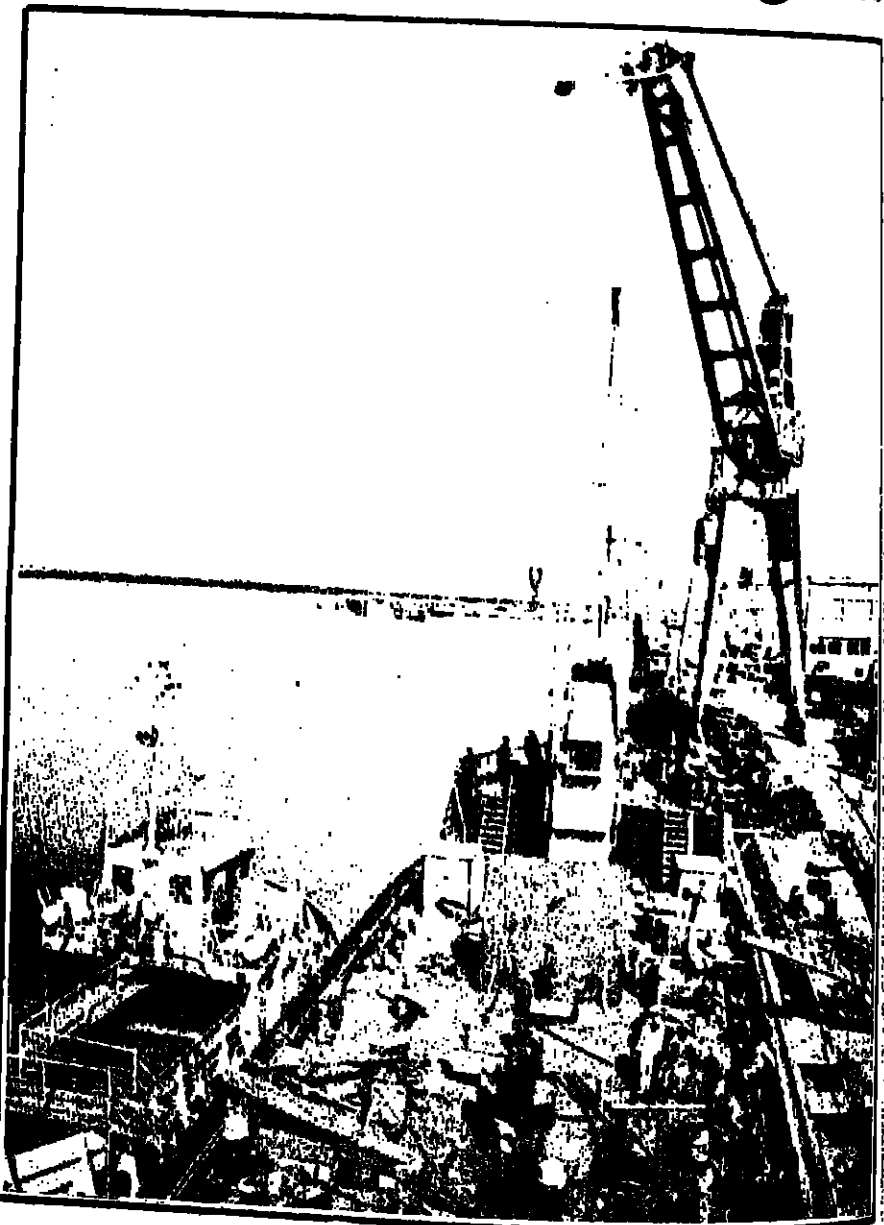
Except for the Khair Khan area on the northeastern edge of Kabul, there appeared to be fighting everywhere in the city, report from a Western diplomatic source that cannot be identified said.

Major targets of the attack were the Bala Hissar fort, which houses a major concentration of Soviet troops, the Mero Rayon housing complex where many Soviet and Afghan officials live, and the Radio Afghanistan complex, the report said.

Soviet casualties were believed to be high, but the report said it was doubtful if varying estimates would ever be confirmed. There was no word on casualties among the Mujahideen.

The attack on the historic Bala Hissar fort near the centre of town at the base of Shahr-e Waza Mountain lasted more than 6 hours. At dawn, columns of smoke could be seen rising from inside the fort, and the diplomatic report said it appeared the attack had been the largest since the Soviet Union invaded in December 1979.

Meanwhile, an increase was reported during the week in the assassinations of Afghan military and Communist Party officials. One Aug. 4, a military officer was shot in his home in the Kote Sange area of Kabul. His body was found later in a grain sack dumped along a road to Kharga, west of the city.



A general view of the Karachi shipyard

goods rose to \$5,406 million in 1980-81, as against \$2,809 million in 1977-78. However, improvement started soon. Export earnings more than doubled from \$131 million in 1977-78 to \$395.5 million in 1980-81 and have maintained a steady growth.

Energy
Pakistan is almost 70% self-sufficient in its energy requirements. Power sources of commercial energy include hydro-electricity, natural gas, oil, and nuclear power. About 60% of the power is generated by hydroelectric power stations. The main source is Tarbela Dam. During the 6th plan period, a 9.6 per cent per annum increase has been planned in electricity which amounts to 650 megawatts per year.

Most of the natural gas originates in Sui, Baluchistan. The Pirkoah gas field and several others also produce gas which is distributed in the country by an extensive pipeline system. Gas production is expected to meet 56% of demand by 1990. Coal mined amounts to only 2 million tons and imports are necessary.

Oil was first discovered in 1915 in the Mayal oilfield near Rawalpindi. Later, exploration both on and off-shore yielded positive results. The 6th Five-Year Plan has proposed accelerated exploration efforts. It suggests drilling of at least fifty new wells a year, 16 a year for exploration and 34 a year for development. The government has earmarked Rs. 100 billion for investment in energy.

The 6th Five-Year Plan

The 6th Five-Year Plan, launched from July this year, aims at overcoming the basic shortcomings of the economy which hinder rapid progress. It seeks to promote application of technology, raise the saving rate, and improve general performance of the social sector. The Plan proposes a development outlay of Rs. 495 billion which reflects an increase of 109% over the Rs. 237 billion 5th Five-Year Plan.

It provides for enhanced investment in key infrastructures together with new measures to encourage and facilitate increased involvement of the private sector in national development. The private sector investment would be increased by 14 per cent per annum. A larger allocation of credit as well as Rs. 100 million in foreign exchange would be provided for private investment this year. The Plan lays key emphasis on rural development. About 86% of the villages will be electrified. 75% of children will be put to primary schools and 25% of the total number of doctors will serve in rural areas. In addition, a ten fold increase in rural roads has been planned for the next five years.

CIA analyses Arab-Israeli military balance

Captured weapons in Lebanon war sent to Nicaragua

By Abdulsalam Massaruch

Star Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The extent of the Israeli involvement in assisting and implementing the US policy in the world is evident from new reports that Israel is aiding the Latin American aims and objectives of the Reagan administration. The last, but not least, example is the involvement of Israel, per the request of the United States, in sending captured weapons from Lebanon's war to Honduras for eventual use by the Nicaraguan insurgents who are backed, deployed and supported by the Reagan administration and the CIA operatives in Central America.

It has been established beyond any doubt that all the assistance that the US is pouring over Israel intends to be a backup and support system, which the US will definitely use through Israel in the materialization of the global strategy of Washington. Israel is no longer the "little" country who needs protection and coaching. It acts and behaves on the international arena, thanks to the assistance and indefinite support of the US.

Also Israel is being prepared, according to analysis and estimates of General Accounting Office, which published the most controversial and comprehensive document ever published by a US agency, to stay and deter the Soviets from creeping in the Middle East. There are some Pentagon analysts and arms tzars who believe and attest to the fact that Israeli nuclear capability and power should be supported and encouraged in order to become a deterrent against the Soviet designs and de-

sire to take over the vital areas of the Middle East.

"The US assessment of Israeli needs is somewhat lower than the Israeli estimate. The Joint Chiefs of Staff, JCS, assessment of Israeli military requirements concludes that it has sufficient forces and equipment to defend against any likely Arab offensive. On the other hand, Israel concludes that its force structure is 'just barely sufficient.' Israel has based its force structure plans against a total Arab threat and, although JCS believes this is militarily prudent, it also believes it highly unlikely that the total threat could be brought to bear against Israel."

Numerical analysis

The CIA made a numerical analysis and comparison of the Israeli and the Arab forces, which included the ratio between these forces. These estimates include the full military inventories for Egypt, Syria, and Jordan plus expeditionary forces from Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Libya, Algeria, Morocco, Sudan, and Kuwait. All these countries were compared with Israel, and the result was as follows:

Equipment	Arab	Israel	Ratio
Tanks	7,530	3,680	2.0 : 1.0
Armoured carriers	7,700	10,600	0.7 : 1.0
Artillery	3,180	1,165	2.7 : 1.0
Combat aircraft	1,475	665	2.2 : 1.0
Sam batteries	251	21	12.0 : 1.0
Combat brigades	99	54	1.8 : 1.0

Israel's legitimate military modernization requirements are seen by DOD, Department of Defence, as not having been changed significantly over the last few years. In DOD's opinion, additional security assistance would enable Israel to pursue a somewhat more rapid pace of modernization, but would only marginally enhance its military superiority. The US Embassy in Tel Aviv calculated that Israel will require FMS, Foreign Military Sales, assistance of at least \$1.4 billion annually for the foreseeable future. DOD officials at the working level believe that Israel can "do with less" than the proposed \$1.7 billion FMS programme. In fact, some DOD officials say that

Israel could get by with \$1.0 billion annually in FMS, and still maintain its superiority.

In May 1981, the Israeli Ministry of Defence reaffirmed its force structure requirements. The major formation of the Israeli Defence Force would include 11 armoured divisions, 13 infantry brigades, 10 territorial brigades, 56 self-propelled artillery battalions, 23 fighter squadrons, and 3 missile flotillas. Major equipment for this force would include 4,100 tanks, 12,700 armoured personnel carriers, 936 artillery pieces, 630 combat aircraft, 60 attack helicopters, and 24 missile boats. This represents a retrenchment from the 13 armoured divisions Israel had planned in 1977. The Air Force and Navy structure unchanged.

The United States has no formal agreements as to the Israeli force structure, although it has agreed that 575 to 625 modern combat aircraft are reasonable. There are no agreements on an acceptable number for armoured personnel carriers, tanks, or self-propelled artillery. Informally, the United States prefers 10 rather than 11 Israeli armoured division, with only 3,700 tanks, but such a message has never been formally conveyed to the Israelis.

US officials have not pursued these differences with Israel for three reasons. The first is that any strong desire to resolve the issues might constitute a tacit US commitment to fund a specific Israeli force structure. Secondly that, in light of the already approved US weapons/technology transfers and Israeli domestic defense production capability, the United States will have minimal influence over the nature and levels of the Israeli force structure through the next five years. Finally, it is doubtful, in DOD's view, that the United States could develop an analytically sound rationale establishing, beyond reasonable doubt, that the US projections of Israel's force needs are more valid than Israel's.

However, DOD believes that force structure levels need to be considered further as the peace process unfolds. It points out that firm and lasting progress on the Palestinian issue, occupied territories, Lebanon, and other regional related conflict issues will be necessary before Israel would be willing to risk reducing its armed forces.

Lebanon fears imminent partition

Israeli troop deployment means occupation

By Naghne Khaleeli

ON 20TH JULY the Israeli cabinet announced that its forces would move to a new line of defence in Lebanon — South of the Awali river. This move, now in the process of implementation, has been interpreted as the de facto occupation of southern Lebanon by Israel. At the same time, it has virtually confirmed the worst fears of the Lebanese — the partition of their country into separate Israeli, Syrian and Lebanese government spheres of influence.

Israel's partial withdrawal announcement was motivated primarily by two factors. The human and financial cost of occupation. More than five hundred Israelis have been killed in Lebanon and there have been somewhere in the region of 2,750 casualties. Withdrawal to the new line of defence will mean a reduction of two thirds of its forces in Lebanon. At the same time, the cost of maintaining 1,500 troops in the Chouf mountains and the suburbs of Beirut has proved costly for Israel facing economic difficulties at home with inflation running at 135%.

Terrorist attacks

Israel's foremost aim in virtually occupying south Lebanon is to ensure itself against terrorist attacks from Lebanese territory. It was ostensibly to end to these attacks that Israel invaded Lebanon in June 1982. South Lebanon will now be the buffer zone against such attacks. Also, there have been allegations that the Israelis are now looking to the Chouf region as a

further buffer zone by creating a Druze mini-state north of the Awali river — the Druze make up 60 per cent of the population in this area. To cultivate any sort of relationship with the Druze, Israel would have to sacrifice ties with the Phalange and compete with Syria, the Druze's traditional allies. This new twist to Israel's regional policies could account for her permitting Syrian 122mm guns to pass through their lines and reach the Druze. Aware that once they withdraw, civil disorder is bound to erupt with the Druze and the Phalange Christian militia attacking each other, the Israelis could use this anarchy to its advantage. Should there be trouble, the Israelis could take the opportunity to prove that the Lebanese government is unable to maintain law and order even within a section of its own country and that Israel therefore should take over this responsibility in the south.

Water resources

Israeli occupation of south Lebanon will at the same time guarantee Israel access to badly needed water resources from both the Litani and Awali rivers. At present Israel is trying to meet its water needs by recycling used irrigation and waste water and through expensive desalination plants. The country's water consumption is five times that of her neighbours and her need for water is bound to increase in the future. Lebanese water engineers estimate that the Israelis could take about 100 m cubic meters a year from the Litani river alone. Another purpose that could also be served by Is-

rael's occupation of southern Lebanon is the use of that country as an outlet for its goods in the Lebanon and perhaps by this means the Middle East market. In fact Sidon, the third largest city in the Lebanon, which will come under Israeli occupation according to the new defence line, is the commercial, banking and administrative centre of the south.

But Israel's arbitrary withdrawal to the Awali river from Beirut's suburbs and the Chouf mountains, south of the capital, will now make it impossible for Syria to compromise on any form of withdrawal. Syria has been occupying North and North Eastern Lebanon since 1976 when its forces intervened to end civil war there. They never left. Syria is only willing to consider withdrawal once Israeli forces have left Lebanese soil completely. Israel, on the other hand, is unwilling to leave without, as stipulated in the Lebanese-Israeli agreement of 17 May, the PLO and the Syrian forces doing likewise and simultaneously.

Golan Heights

Syria's refusal to withdraw from Lebanon is based on its hope of regaining the Golan Heights, occupied by Israel during the 1967 war and presently annexed by it. According to the thinking in Damascus, if Syria stays on in Lebanon it will have to be included in any future negotiations on a settlement for that region and will then be able to put forward its claim for the return of the Golan Heights at the bargaining table. The Camp David accord, reached between Israel and Egypt in



Israeli military jeeps over the Awali River bridge in southern Lebanon where Israeli troops plan to redeploy

1978, left Syria out in the cold. As a result of that agreement, Egypt was returned the Sinai lost to Israel in the same 1967 war. The Rengan peace initiative for the Middle East of 1 September 1982, also excluded the Syrians and totally ignored its territorial rights to the Golan Heights.

Syria would like to see greater US involvement in the Lebanon as a means of getting back its lost territory.

As such it is not too reluctant to see anarchy reign once the Israelis withdraw from the Chouf. And Israeli withdrawal, it is hoped, would mean greater US policing and commitment in the region and in any future negotiations, the US would have to consider the Syrians as a major occupying force.

South/Third World Media

THE JERUSALEM STAR 9



Israeli military planners have stated that Israel plans to stop the growth of its military at the planned levels and does not expect to expand its forces structure. They stress that Israel needs to modernize current forces and maintain the qualitative advantage through acquisition of new and better equipment to replenish its inventories. According to a 1981 Israeli procurement schedule, foreign exchange expenditures for weapons will outstrip US military aid by \$1.5 billion in 1983-85.

Israeli equipment losses in Lebanon campaign

Israeli officials maintain there will be no costs to the United States from the Lebanon campaign and DOD officials stated that Israeli campaign losses were limited. However, CIA reported that Israel may want to revise its procurement plans, particularly if they want to replace the lost or damaged equipment. The Defence Intelligence Agency, DIA, estimated that Israel had 125-150 tanks and 150-175 armoured personnel carriers damaged or destroyed. An estimated 40 tanks and 75 armoured personnel carriers are judged unreparable. Israel also lost 3 jets aircraft and at least 16 more were damaged.

Israel captured approximately 290 Soviet tanks and 216 armoured vehicles. About a third of the tanks were T-62's and about half of them were T-54/55's. Armoured vehicles were of various Soviet types, however, over a half were not readily identified.

Additionally, Israel captured 215 various artillery pieces; 10,000 tons of artillery shells; 40,000 mortar rounds; 5,700 Katyusha rockets; 11,619 mines; 18,950 hand grenades; 6,000 tons of small arms ammunition; and 24,000 rifles. DIA reported some sales of armoured vehicles and spare parts for tanks to Romania but noted that the major items captured were not sufficient for Israel to develop a new arms market. DIA expects that the equipment will be used by Israeli surrogates in Lebanon, such as Saad Haddad and others.

Abourezk: Israeli lobby threatens US Congressmen

James Abourezk, the son of a Lebanese-American peddler, is the only Arab to have been elected to the US Senate. His election in the state of South Dakota in 1972 while serving his first term in the House of Representatives, was relatively easy. Before his term ran out he made clear his intention not to run for re-election, an unprecedented move for a Senate member.

Now Abourezk is spending much of his time as the national chairman of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) which he established in 1980. The following are excerpts from an interview he granted to the Middle East Magazine published last month.

Question: You are the best known of the Arab Americans, yet you are not a lobbyist?

Answer: No. The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee is not a lobbying organization, although we did lobby last summer against the Israeli invasion of Lebanon — not very successfully, I might add. But we did call the attention of both the American Congress and the public to the atrocities. We were the only group to offer major resistance to Israeli propaganda initiatives in this country.

Q: Do you view the Arab lobby in the US in the same sense as the Chinese, Greek or Israeli lobbies?

A: No, because there is no real Arab lobby, and what there is is virtually powerless. The NAAA (National Association of Arab Americans) could be called an Arab lobby, but it has never established any kind of grass-roots base in America. A grass-roots base is absolutely essential to any successful lobbying effort.

ADC is a grass-roots organization, and at some point in the future we might decide, if our membership agrees to do some lobbying. There are things that we could do as an organization, but we feel we need grass-roots strength before we can do them.

Q: This assumes that policymakers base foreign policy on what they think their constituency wants. Do things really work this way?

A: Yes. Foreign-policy makers would like very much to act without any interference from domestic groups. For example, the so-called China lobby, which kept the US in opposition to Communist China for years and caused the Vietnam and Korean wars as a result, was a lobby on behalf of Chiang Kai-Shek (the Chinese nationalist statesman). There was the Greek lobby on the Cyprus question which strongly affected foreign policy.

Then there is the Israeli lobby, which does the Israeli government's work in the US using the American-Jewish community as its grass-roots base. The Israeli lobby has become so professional that they virtually dominate the Middle East foreign-policy decision-making in both Congress and the administration. The majority in Congress do not like it, and neither does the administration, but they cannot do anything about it. They are hamstringed because of the political influence and money of the Israeli lobby.

Q: But opinion polls show a lessening, or even, at times, a minority of support for Israel. Why then don't American officials and Congress respond to these?

A: I don't believe those polls. America and the American-Jewish community wouldn't want to drop American aid to Israel because it would threaten Israel's survival. Congress is adding even more money to Israeli aid than the administration wants.

Q: You believe that the administration and Congress are reflecting the real views of the American people?

A: Yes, as a result of fear, political terrorism and intimidation. Those are the tactics used by the Israeli lobby in Congress. If a member of Congress refuses to go along with a request, the Israeli lobby threatens him with political defeat.

Q: Any examples?

A: They defeated Paul Findley (Republican, Illinois) and Pete McCloskey (Republican, California). Not many before this because few stood up to them. They didn't defeat me, because I was intent on not running.



James Abourezk

Q: In some mid-western states there are no Jewish communities, yet representatives and senators from these states are staunch supporters of Israel. Why?

A: These members of Congress receive a lot of funds from the American-Jewish community,

political money from New York, Los Angeles and elsewhere. They are from the form of fund-raising. Most politicians feel if they vote against Israeli interests they are hounded by the Israeli lobby. I used to find it embarrassing to be asked to support Israel.

Q: Rumours suggest that ADC is considering merger with NAAA.

A: I think eventually there will be a merger between the two groups.

Q: Are there any thoughts of creating an Arab 'leaders council' in the US?

A: There are discussions under way right now with the major Arab-American organizations to create a leadership to co-ordinate activities.

Q: Do you believe Arab rivalries in the Middle East reflect themselves negatively here?

A: The only real split is with respect to those who support the Phalangists, and they are a tiny minority that they are not even worth talking about. Even though they now believe they are their own president in Lebanon, it doesn't matter because they have no influence whatsoever in the Arab-American community.

Middle East Magazine

Liberia to resume ties with Israel

AMMAN (Star) — Liberia intends to resume diplomatic relations with Israel soon. This was contained in a statement issued in Monrovia the capital last weekend.

Liberia along with a number of OAU member states unanimously broke ties with Israel in 1973. The statement said the decision has been taken because 'a continued isolation of Israel undermines the prospect for a peaceful solution to the Middle East problem.'

The statement stipulated however that despite the decision, Liberia's Middle East

policy continues to be based on the belief that a just and lasting peace cannot prevail without due recognition to the rights of the Palestinian people.

These include, their right to a state of their own. Israel must also withdraw completely from all occupied Arab lands. All states in the region including Israel have a right to live freely within secure and internationally recognised boundaries with full respect for their territorial integrity and sovereignty. This is the first OAU member state to resume relations with Israel.

A Palestinian speaks his mind in San Diego

Special to the Star

If every city in the United States had a Fawzi Khoury, there would be no misunderstandings between Americans and Arabs. Khoury was born in Nazareth, Palestine, and emigrated to the US in November 1969. His first job was as a labourer with Kaiser Steel in San Diego, California.

"I took on extra work as the manager of an apartment building," Khoury says. "I was always working two or three jobs at the same time."

In 1972, when he applied for his first credit card, the clerk asked "What kind of a name is Fawzi Khoury?" To his response that he was Palestinian, the clerk replied, "So you're one of those bad guys who killed Israeli athletes at Munich."

"I think the decision came at that moment," Khoury recalled. "I either had to anglicise my name and become part of the so-called melting-pot of America, or stand up and face the consequences of being proud to be a Palestinian Arab. I realised I had to become economically independent from the establishment if I was to speak my mind."

Khoury achieved this within four years. Today he is the owner of a mass commercial bindery that turns out 100,000 publications daily in San Diego. Thirty employees are on his payroll, 13 of them Arabs.

Khoury set up the Arab-American Society of San Diego in 1972. This merged with the local chapter of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) in November 1981. A steering committee meets twice a month.

In June 1982, a political cartoon appeared in the San Diego Tribune

portraying animals boarding Noah's Ark, among them two Arabs with PLO written on their backs. Noah was forbidding them to board the ark. A caption read, "Not these two creatures." The ADC immediately protested to the Tribune. "If an ap-



Fawzi Khoury

ology hadn't been published, we were prepared to invoke an Arab embargo of our own kind," Khoury said. "More than 60 businessmen of Arab heritage live in San Diego. Some are in the land development and construction; others are car dealers; some own furniture and appliance shops; and a few operate petrol stations. We were ready to withdraw all advertising within 24 hours. An apology was printed."

"The media quickly came to realise last summer that any anti-Arab remark

would be challenged by us and backed up with the withdrawal of advertising revenues."

A case in point is the incident of a talk-show moderator who stated on the air that God-fearing Americans should be pro-Palestinian. The moderator was given notice by the radio station. The Arab-American block responded by cancelling its commercials, representing a monthly revenue of \$25,000. The moderator got his job back.

Khoury carried out his personal campaign against the Israeli invasion of Lebanon with an article in the Tribune and several interviews on radio and TV. During a 20-minute interview on the local CBS-TV affiliate, he was asked: "Why are the Palestinians violent?" He replied, "You Americans were willing to fight revolutionary war simply because you were taxed without representation. Why shouldn't we Palestinians fight for the basic human right of self-determination? A domesticated cat is a docile pet, but if you push that cat into a corner it will bare its claws. The Palestinians are in the position of being cornered; they have no choice but to fight."

Scarcely more than 15 years since he arrived in the US, Khoury has become a successful businessman and a mini-celebrity as a spokesman of the ADC. Moreover, he has learnt how the American political system works. "I realised last summer that it was time to prove we Arabs were a voting block as much as the Jewish lobby," he says.

Khoury united with the black and Mexican blocks to elect Roger Hedgecock as mayor of San Diego.

The Middle East

Gulf states to seek solutions to Middle East problems

KUWAIT (AP) — The current Gulf swing of Saudi Arabian foreign minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal is aimed primarily at devising a combined action by the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council to end the 35-month-old Iraq-Iran war, official sources said Tuesday.

They said that Prince Saud, who visited Oman, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, was paving the way for the GCC foreign ministers conference, scheduled for 22 Aug in Taif, the Saudi Arabian summer capital.

The conference was to discuss the latest developments in the Gulf war and also review efforts underway to eliminate inter-Arab differences and reconcile disagreements between Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation's mainline group, Patah.

The GCC is a regional economic integration and combined defence pact.

Prince Saud and the Kuwait foreign minister, Sheikh Sabah



Saud Al-Faisal

Al-Ahmed, met in Taif last week and discussed the same issues. A Kuwaiti foreign ministry spokesman meanwhile announced that Sheikh Sabah is to attend an international seminar on the Palestinian question, scheduled for 28 Aug in Geneva.

The Sheikh is scheduled to address the seminar on 2 September.

Peace movement draws plans against missiles

FRANKFURT (AP) — Using blockades and boycotts, tax revolts and fake illnesses, West Germany's peace activists are hatching an array of non-violent schemes they hope can prevent the stationing of new US nuclear missiles in West Germany.

Organizers have planned at least 40 blockades at US and German military bases and are opening 150 peace camps across the country. Several camps have been in existence for months, their colourful tents emblazoned with slogans calling for peace and disarmament.

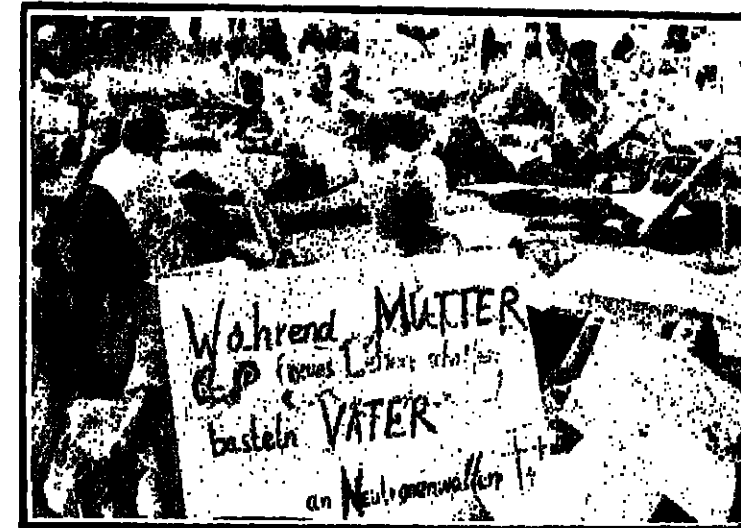
Some of the protest ideas put forward by the more than 500 local peace groups are proven tactics of passive resistance, recalling the 19th century American pacifist Henry David Thoreau and India's hero of independence, Mahatma Gandhi. Others take a more novel approach reminiscent of the slapstick politics of Abbie Hoffman's Yippies in the America of the 1960s.

One scheme calls on young West Germans to crowd doctors' offices complaining of nuclear nightmares. The idea: to bleed money from the state-backed health programme and tie up social services. Several groups have urged activists to flood government offices with phone queries on how to respond to a nuclear attack, or to try to tie up telephone lines at US military bases.

The anti-missile forces basic aim is to embarrass the West German government and render deployment of the missiles politically impossible. There are countless ideas floating around, said Udo Nimsdorf, of the Munich-based Information Centre for Peace Politics. Almost anything is being accepted as long as it is non-violent.

Protest organizers say their goal is to prevent NATO from stationing a total of 572 medium-range Pershing II and cruise missiles in Western Europe starting in December. The largest contingent of missiles — all 108 of the Pershing II — ballistic missiles and 96 of the cruise missiles — are to be sited in West Germany.

Although Bonn officials say protesters cannot prevent the missiles from



West German anti-nuclear demonstrators stage a sit-in protest in Stuttgart: Applying non-violence.

going in, the government appears sensitive to the strong opposition being expressed by more than 1.5 million activists. And the activists are stressing non-violent tactics to avoid alienating those in the country who oppose the missiles but do not take to the streets to demonstrate.

Non-violence is first and foremost a matter of principle for us, but it is also an effective tactic, said Gottfried Haerle, a 29-year-old economist now working in Stuttgart as a peace movement organizer. "In the American South, Martin Luther King accomplished a great deal with sit-ins, bus rides and voter drives," he said. Part of his success was due to people remaining non-violent.

Some protest schemes have been announced in anonymous leaflets, or through unsigned ads in the Berlin-based Tageszeitung, a counter-culture daily. Organizers predict many of the proposals will be put into widespread use starting later this month.

Some protest schemes appear likely to provoke confrontations with authorities, despite the organizers' vows to remain non-violent. These proposals urge protesters to disrupt rail, road and air traffic by pulling emergency brakes

on trains, blocking roads leading to US military bases and freeing balloons with aluminum tins near radar stations.

Another proposal calls for 120,000 people to form a 100-kilometre human chain on 22 October to run through towns and valleys of southern Germany, an area where some of the missiles are to be deployed. That will be a powerful symbol, said one organizer. The government won't be able to ignore something like that.

The anti-Nato Greens Party has backed a tax revolt launched earlier this year by a group in the black forest town of Leutbold. The group has printed and sold 120,000 tax forms — at 8 cents apiece — requesting that taxes paid for defence be turned over to third world relief agencies. Tax officials have said the forms will be ignored. There is no country in the world that lets people choose which taxes they want to pay, said Raimund Feucht, director of the finance office near Leutbold.

Organizers set up dozens of training collectives, where activists demonstrate methods of passive resistance, such as going limp to hinder arrests at sit-ins.

Salvadoran guerrillas launch new offensive

By Paul Eilman

SAN SALVADOR (ONS) — It did not take long for the chill wind of reality to disperse the mist of optimism which swirled briefly over El Salvador following the meeting between President Reagan's special envoy to Central America, Richard Stone, and a Salvadoran guerrilla leader.

Ruben Zamora, the guerrilla representative who met Stone in Bogota, Colombia, described the talks as a small step towards a peace dialogue. How small is now becoming apparent. Signals from both Washington and the guerrilla leadership all point to the fact that when Stone finally gets down to substantive discussions, the two sides are likely to find themselves as far apart as ever.

The next meeting is expected to take place before the end of this month and will see Stone facing delegates from the guerrillas' political and diplomatic commission. This group represents both wings of the insurgent alliance, the Military Farabundo Marti National Liberation Movement (FMLN) and the civilian Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR).

An immediate stumbling block is the question of what Stone's role really is. As far as Washington is concerned, he is an intermediary between the guerrillas and the Salvadoran government. US officials have said that Stone's only goal is to establish whether the FMLN/FDR are interested in participating in elections expected to be held early next year. If the guerrillas indicated that they might be interested in doing so, then Stone in theory would bow out of the



Rebels surround a wounded government soldier: More than 42,000 deaths since the war

process, leaving the insurgents to hammer out the details of any formal agreement with the peace commission appointed by the Salvadoran government last autumn.

Haunted by the ghost of the Paris peace talks on Vietnam, the US has said that it has no intention of becoming involved in negotiations with the guerrillas where it would in effect act as a surrogate for the Salvadoran government as it did for the regime in Saigon. The guerrillas have made it clear that this is not how they perceive their contacts with the Reagan Administration. "I think we have to make it clear that our dealings with Am-

bassador Stone are one thing and a different thing is our initiative with the peace commission", Zamora said last week during a stopover in San Jose, Costa Rica, on his way back to Managua, Nicaragua.

Zamora said that the guerrillas envisaged a 'parallel' process whereby discussions with the US would occur separately from contacts with the Salvadoran peace commission. Their justification for this is the US involvement on the government side. Zamora noted that the Reagan Administration had justified its military and economic aid programme on the grounds that without it,

IN BRIEF

● TOKYO — Japanese leaders headed by 82-year-old Emperor Hirohito marked the 38th anniversary of the end of World War II Monday with prayers and a state ceremony for more than 3 million war dead. Opposition politicians used the occasion to decry what they claim is a return by Japan to militarism. Some 7,500 people, many of them elderly, gathered at Tokyo's Nippon Budokan hall noon for the government-sponsored memorial ceremony.

● LAGOS — At least 10 people, including a police officer and six members of Nigeria's leading political party, were reported killed in civil disturbances connected with the country's state governors' elections. Fatalities were reported in Lagos, Ibadan and Abeokuta, cities in traditionally turbulent south-western Nigeria, all strongholds of Chief Obafemi Awolowo, who finished a distant second to incumbent Shehu Shagari in Nigeria's presidential elections on 6 August.

● HANGKOK — More than 2.7 million people died under the Khmer Rouge regime in Cambodia between 1975 and early 1979, the Phnom Penh government announced Tuesday. The Phnom Penh News Agency SPK said the figure was based on interviews with survivors. In recent weeks, the pro-Hanoi government has been releasing statistics on those who perished on a province by province basis. The agency said the report of the Khmer Rouge atrocities was presented before the fifth session of the National Assembly, which convened in the Cambodian capital Tuesday.

● WASHINGTON — Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation say they are beginning to re-interview some officials of President Ronald Reagan's 1980 campaign to clear up inconsistencies in their accounts of how the campaign obtained debate briefing materials prepared for then-President

Jimmy Carter. The officials said Central Intelligence Agency Director William J. Casey, who was director of the Reagan campaign, would be among those interviewed again and so probably would be White House Chief of Staff James Baker, who also worked in the campaign.

● PARIS — An opinion poll published Tuesday in the daily 'Le Quotidien (De Paris)' said 53 per cent of the French people oppose sending forces to shore up the government in Chad. The poll, conducted by the opinion firm IFRES, showed 28 per cent favoured intervention by France and 19 per cent had no opinion. The survey was taken 10-12 August as France announced it was sending 500 military advisers to Chad to back up the shipment of military equipment it sent to the impoverished country to support the government of President Habyrma.

● ROME — Police said Monday they searched in vain for 15-year-old Emanuela Orlandi in a working class section of Rome after three telephone calls said the vatican messenger's daughter's body could be found there. Officials later said the calls, made by anonymous men, were a hoax. The calls, which were made early Sunday to citizens whose names were not released, said Emanuela had been killed and her body dumped along the street, police said. The girl disappeared on 22 June.

● JOHANNESBURG — Thieves who manipulated a computer are suspected in the theft of \$3.4 million in gems and jewelry over two years from a major jewelry retailer. It now seems certain that one of several of our own employees, with access to our central computer, is linked to the thefts, said Syd Barnett, Chairman of the Star's Diamond Organization, which has 76 retail outlets around South Africa.

the government in San Salvador would fall. "You don't need to say any more to put the US as part of the conflict," he said.

A further indication of the hardline the guerrillas can be expected to take was provided by their clandestine broadcasting station, "Radio Veneceros" (we shall overcome), which only three days after the Bogota meeting lashed Stone as "another saviour of intervention" and sneered: "They still think we are sufficiently naive to believe in the force of elections as a solution to our problems."

Change of government

Guerrilla sources outside El Salvador said that there was no chance that the insurgents would agree to participate in elections as presently envisaged. There would first have to be a change of government, with the present Cabinet replaced by a 'government of transition' agreed by all sides to the war. This government would be responsible for organising a poll and for 'purging' the armed forces of right-wing elements and disbanding the 'death squads' which have been responsible for many of the more than 42,000 deaths that have occurred since the war began in earnest 46 months ago. The guerrillas said that what they envisaged for El Salvador was a settlement similar to that which ended the Rhodesian war and resulted in the independence of Zimbabwe. This would entail the integration of guerrilla forces with 'acceptable' elements of the Salvadoran military.

Sri Lanka faces task of reconstruction

By T.R. Lansner

COLOMBO (ONS) — Sri Lanka faces an enormous task of reconstruction after communal violence which left nearly 300 people dead and more than a thousand injured. Seventy thousand Tamils have fled for safety and shelter to 27 makeshift camps established by the government. A third of those in the camps have registered to be transported to the Tamil-dominated areas around Jaffna, 384 kilometres north of the capital.

Fleets of municipal buses heading for the harbour rumble through the city carrying thousands of Tamils with their pitifully few belongings. Most escaped with just what they could carry, if anything at all. Under the watch of security forces posted to protect them, they walk from the buses to ships which will carry them on the 36-hour voyage to a new life in the north.

Government officials say overland transport will also be used and an air bridge will soon be established. Several relief organisations are helping the government to provide essentials in the camps. Food, water and medical assistance are being supplied in adequate measure, according to relief workers and camp residents, who are free to move in and out as they please.

Some people express fear of further attack, but many feel secure enough to take passes and head out into Colombo in search of a better variety of food than they are being offered. "They are giving us only rice, and may be some tinned fish," a young Tamil couple complained. "We are not used to eating like this and we are going to buy some decent food".

Friends of many people who have fled to the camps arrive carrying bags and boxes of

food, clothing and other goods. For the wealthy, it is possible to send out for whatever items are desired. Clearly, the greatest difficulty is organisational. The sudden need to shelter and feed so many people at a moment of mass destruction and economic dislocation has seriously strained the government's resources.

There is no doubt, though, that a genuine effort is being made to meet the needs of the displaced Tamils. The government has announced the creation of a Ministry of Rehabilitation under the direction of President Jayawardene. The Save the Children Fund is taking food, medicine, buckets and blankets to the camps. The morale of the displaced Tamils seems good. Nowhere have I witnessed the scenes of desperate privation sadly familiar in some African and Asian refugee camps. Individuals tell terrifying stories of escapes from death, but are nearly unanimous in believing a sincere effort is now being made to help them.

At one camp, I saw people resting on mats spread on the ground and children playing games. There were long queues at water points but one of the many Tamil volunteers helping to run the camps said this was merely an inconvenience. Over a loud-speaker system provided by the Save the Children Fund, a volunteer read announcements and messages from other camps sent by people seeking news of friends and family.

The rebuilding of Sri Lanka's economic life will be difficult. A greater challenge, though, will be to repair the psychological damage wreaked by the unleashing of communal passion against the Tamil minority, long disproportionately prominent in the nation's business, economic and professional life. They must be reassured that they can resume their lives without the nightmare fear of losing all.



African elephants in southern Kenya. There at least 1.1 million of them on the continent.

Zimbabwe kills off elephants to control their population

By Peter Jackson

HARARE — Government officers are shooting some 6,000 elephants in Zimbabwe this year to keep the population under control. Elsewhere in Africa, ivory poachers are taking a heavy toll, to the alarm of conservationists. This paradox sums up the plight of elephants in Africa.

In Zimbabwe, elephants thrive through protection and the good management of wildlife areas. There were a few thousand elephants around the turn of the century; there are about 50,000 today. The human population has grown to nearly eight million. This year the prolonged drought in southern Africa has convinced the authorities that more elephants than usual must be killed to prevent the elephants devastating their habitat, creating for themselves a food crisis of the type that led to the deaths of thousands of elephants, rhinos and other animals in Kenya's Tsavo area a decade ago.

The tusks of two dead elephants fuelled the great ivory boom of the 1970s, when the value soared along with gold as people realised it was an excellent means of storing and moving wealth in the midst of a world financial crisis. Poachers have killed more than half Kenya's surviving elephants since then, solving thereby any problems of over population.

But in Kenya, the benefits have gone into private pockets. In Zimbabwe, the income from ivory sales is channelled back to local communities, who also get meat and profit from processing the hides. Most poaching for ivory in Africa occurs where elephants are accessible and law enforcement weak. During the Idi Amin regime and its immediate aftermath, Uganda lost 90% of its elephants, despite its spectacular wildlife parks. Now much poached ivory is coming out of southern Sudan.

The toll during the 1970s was such that many people feared that the elephant might be driven to extinction. No one knew how many existed in Africa. The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), the New York Zoological Society (NYZS) and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) launched a survey. This found, to experts' surprise, that there were at least 1.1 million African elephants.

Experts speculated that the vast, dense equatorial forests might contain a million or two more which cannot be counted. The African elephant is far from extinction, although the speed with which tens of millions of American bison were reduced to a few thousand last century shows that numbers are no safeguard. However many African elephants there are, they far outnumber the Asian elephant, which numbers around 35,000 in India and Southeast Asia.

Poaching of the relatively few tuskers could lead to the genetic elimination of tusker elephants, but the most acute threat to the Asian elephant is the rapid erosion of its living space by human settlement. Forests are being cleared for cultivation; elephants continuing their traditional migrations, or helping themselves to sugarcane and rice, clash with farmers.

Elephants and people constantly battle, and both sides suffer casualties. Most countries want to save their elephants but have difficulty in se-

ting aside large enough reserves. One solution considered is the establishment of elephant reserves where human activities, such as selective logging, would be permitted, but development leading to human/elephant conflict banned. Several countries are experimenting with methods of elephant management. Specially designed electric fences now protect Malaysia's rapidly spreading oil palm plantations, a major source of national income. Before they were tried, a million young palms were destroyed by elephants between 1969 and 1979.

In Sri Lanka the huge, multi-dam Mahaweli river basin irrigation and power project also nearly one third of the country's 3,000 elephants. The government is creating reserves around the catchment areas of the new dams, where there are in any case necessary to prevent soil erosion which would limit the effective life of the reservoirs. Herds are being driven into the reserves, their former ranges are cleared for cultivation. A similar drive took place a few months ago in Sri Lanka, when the army drove herds of elephants which were disrupting agriculture to a special reserve. The problem now is to ensure that they stay there and do not return to their old haunts.

Domestication

The only time the African elephant has been domesticated in modern times was in a special project in the former Belgian Congo; a few were maintained in modern Zaire.

But the Asian elephant, which has been a servant of man for thousands of years, still plays an important role in timber operations. Unlike mechanical vehicles, it can operate in swamps and rivers, acts intelligently, and is fuelled by its renewable resources of the surrounding forest. In Burma, there are over 5,000 timber elephants in service.

In India, the elephant is still used by loggers, although it is no longer a necessity for transport, as most remote areas are now served by roads. But it is in growing demand for the tourist industry to provide exciting rides through the jungle to the wildlife or to give visitors a taste of a Maharajah's lifestyle as they ride around the great forts and palaces. Many Hindu temples in the southern state of Kerala maintain large numbers of elephants for ceremonial purposes. A use also common in Buddhist Thailand. One temple is using elephants dung to fuel a biogas (methane) plant to generate electricity.

In the face of human expansion, elephants are bound to lose habitat and to decline in numbers, but there are good economic and practical reasons to ensure that elephants continue to share the world with humans. Zimbabwe shows that elephants can be managed and harvested to benefit people — a policy which could be followed elsewhere in Africa if governments are serious about controlling poaching. In Asia, elephants are paid good use as servants of man.

And in both continents they have almost lost their value as a revenue-producing attraction for tourists.

/E. Harrison

Sudan: The collapse of an African giant

By a Special Correspondent

SUDAN, the largest country in Africa, often hailed as the potential breadbasket of the Arab world, is broke. Its economy is almost in ruins and it is saddled with enormous external debts, which it cannot repay.

At the time of independence in 1956, Sudan had an excellent higher educational system and an experienced cadre of local administrators who took over without disruption from the British. Then, for 17 years it suffered from a civil war in the south. President Ja'far Nimeiri ended it in 1972, signing the Addis Ababa Accord. The country has had 10 years of peace since then and has given asylum to many thousands of refugees from its conflict-torn neighbours — Somalia, Eritrea and Ethiopia.

But the signs of economic collapse have been growing. In front of every petrol station there is a queue of hundreds of cars and taxis, all waiting patiently for many hours. Power cuts are frequent and sometimes last days. Inflation is high and even the normally placid Sudanese were provoked into rioting when the price of sugar was increased. The telephone system does not work, factories remain idle for want of power or spare parts and the national airline is known as "In-shallah Airlines" because of the unpredictability of its flights.

Just 4 1/2 years ago, the exchange rate was \$1 to 0.35 Sudanese pounds (£S). The current rate for the dollar in the authorised free market is £S1.80 — a devaluation of over 400 per cent. In this period the government has changed the exchange rate regime many times — sometimes a dual rate (one for official and one for private transactions or one for exports and one for imports), sometimes an open market and sometimes a system of "nil-value" imports paid for by Sudanese working abroad.

A few examples from the major sectors of the economy illustrate the accelerating decline since 1972.

— In 1973-74, Sudan produced 1.24 million bales of cotton with a yield per acre second only to Egypt's. In 1980-81, production had dropped to 544,000 bales, the yield per acre being just a quarter of Egypt's.

— Cotton exports used to account for 60 per cent of Sudan's total exports in the 1970s. This declined to 40 per cent by 1980, mainly because of low production and deterioration in quality caused by white fly infestation.

— In 1970-71, Sudan Railways carried 2.8 million net/tonne kms of freight; in 1980-81, only 1.5 million net/tonne kms. The railway system is in a state of virtual collapse.

— The Kenana sugar factory, planned in the early 1970's to produce 330,000 tonnes of sugar annually, is yet to produce at full capacity. Its cost of production is so high that the earnings are not enough to pay interest charges on the \$1 billion it cost.

— A number of weaving sheds are planned for remote areas, but most of the machinery is lying unopened in packing cases.

— Generators, supplied under British aid for Khartoum, could not be installed because a bridge on the road from Port Sudan was too weak to carry them.

How could a country slide so swiftly and so disastrously? There is, of course, no single answer. Broadly speaking, one can identify three factors — a misguided approach to economic planning, the impact of the oil price rise and sheer mismanagement.

Sudan's approach to development is one that is by now familiar in many African countries — a neglect of the traditional sectors of the economy in favour of big shiny new industrial projects.

An example of the bias against farmers producing valuable export crops was the pricing policy for cotton. Under the Gezira scheme, the tenant farmer was told precisely which crop (cotton, sorghum, wheat or groundnuts) to plant where. Income from groundnuts, grains and fodder was shared wholly to the tenant but the charges for sowing, fertiliser and crop spraying for all the crops were deducted from cotton sales. The tenant gets a much higher return from the other crops on which he pays no expenses and comes to look upon cotton as the "government crop". Naturally, the farmer has little interest in increasing cotton production.

While the traditional sectors, including dry farming, were neglected, huge investments were

Poor planning, rising import costs and sheer economic mismanagement have left the government at the mercy of its creditors



A morning rush at a local fish market: Demand exceeds supply

being made in the Kenana sugar factory, the Rahad scheme, the Jonglei Canal to drain the Nile swamp, and the Khartoum-Port Sudan highway. Some, like the highway, were worthwhile infrastructure schemes but could produce no direct return.

Another factor in the economic policy was the subsidising of urban living at the expense of the farmers. Exports like cotton, meat and livestock were taxed and subjected to unfavourable exchange rates, but imported petroleum, sugar and wheat were subsidised heavily.

Until recently, Sudan had the cheapest petrol of any non-oil producing country. In the six years between 1973 and 1979, Sudan imported over \$300 million worth of vehicles (60 per cent of them passenger cars) and \$400 million worth of spare parts and tyres. The result was, as President Nimeiri once publicly complained, two-thirds of all petroleum products being consumed in the capital.

Once a subsidy is given, and periodically increased, to compensate for higher import prices, it becomes progressively more difficult to remove it. The political consequences of an angry urban population make most governments hesitate about increasing prices. Having spent \$96 million on consumer subsidies, the government belatedly raised the price of sugar from US 21 cents to US 34 cents a pound in November 1981, with the predictable result of a riot in the streets. The subsidies for wheat and wheat flour (94 per cent imported) still continue.

The oil price rise has had both direct and indirect adverse consequences on the economy. The direct impact has been on balance of payments — the import bill rose from \$7.1 million in 1972 to \$123.9 million in 1981. Not all the blame can be attributed to the price increase; during these years, consumption grew at 9 per cent per annum, encouraged by the subsidised price and the liberal import of vehicles.

A more important effect on Sudan was the tremendous drain of skilled labour across the Red Sea into the Gulf countries, particularly Saudi Arabia. The Sudanese were valued workers in the oil-rich countries — most of them bilingual, in English and Arabic, hardworking and non-contradictory. The drain from Sudan was not only that of "brains", educated to high level, but also of artisans and technicians, like plumbers, electricians and railway workers. Though the expatriate Sudanese have contributed to the country's economy by way of remittances, a lot has been frittered away by the imports of cars and luxury goods. The migration has left a gaping void in the country's industrial infrastructure.

Mismanagement of state enterprises was also a cause of the economic decline. The canals in the Gezira scheme silted up. For lack of foreign exchange, spare parts could not be imported; more and more agricultural machinery, railway equipment and textile factories began to lie idle. Lower production meant less exports, and more imports, a more severe foreign exchange crisis, even less money to buy fuel and spare parts. The downward spiral, which started in 1973, gathered momentum with every passing year. Today the textile industry works at less than 20 per cent of its capacity.

With exports declining and imports soaring, the current account deficit, less

were petroleum crude and products (\$375 million), food stuffs (\$298 million) and chemicals and drugs (\$141 million). Sudan could afford to buy either petroleum or food stuff and drugs — but not all three, let alone machinery or transport equipment. There was simply no money to pay for debts incurred earlier and Sudan defaulted on interest and principal and, from 1981, also stopped payments to exporters of goods to Sudan.

For the next few years, the debt service burden will exceed Sudan's ability to pay. Until 1985, the payment will average \$800 million a year, of which \$350 million will be interest alone. In addition, Sudan will face a trade deficit of about \$41 billion a year. Just to prevent further decline, Sudan will need external support of about \$1.6 billion each year.

There are some hopeful signs. After falling in the previous two years, real GDP grew at 5.6 per cent in 1980-81 and last year was a respectable 9 per cent. Output of cotton, sorghum and groundnuts all increased. Oil has been discovered in commercial quantities and a production of 25,000 barrels a day is assured. Many think that the oil reserves could support a production of at least double this amount. The government has abandoned plans for building a refinery but instead will build a 2,000 km long pipeline to export the oil as crude. Although the country will continue to import petroleum products, it will benefit from oil exports.

If the government seriously implements the rehabilitation schemes, exports of cotton and groundnuts could pick up and, perhaps, the sugar industry could also be made to work better. It will take a few years to produce results. But the leadership's continued fascination with grand schemes is worrying.

Sudan's greatest strength is its people; tolerant, enormously patient in the face of economic vicissitudes, they can and will overcome their difficulties, provided the leadership can mobilise and inspire them.

Third World Media

Dealing with the IMF

THE DECISION to reschedule part of Sudan's public sector debt, taken at a meeting of the Paris Club in February, and Sudan's request for a standby credit of \$220 million from the International Monetary Fund are the latest examples of the country's fight to keep up payments on its \$8 billion foreign debt.

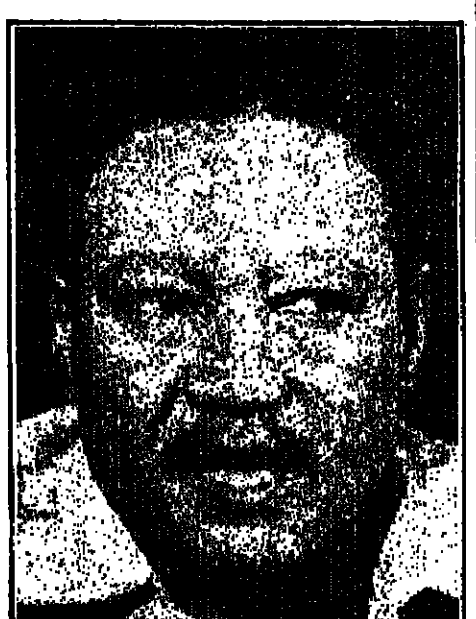
The Paris Club agreement — worth \$440 million in balance of payments support and a further \$300 million as developed aid — was not without its cost. To gain the confidence of the IMF and other creditors, the Sudanese government had to devalue the currency by 44 per cent to \$1 = 1.3 Sudanese pounds. The free market rate promptly shot up to \$1 = 1.8 Sudanese pounds. There was an uproar in the People's Assembly and for a time it looked as if the government would cut back on the devaluation, in the face of internal opposition.

President Ja'far Nimeiri survived the onslaught and continued to administer the IMF medicine by doubling petrol prices to 0.77 pounds a litre. It was agreed to have an "external finance co-ordinator" (a sort of foreign super-inspector), promised to encourage the private sector, open up domestic industries to foreign management and to abolish all subsidies.

Even the latest estimate of the total foreign debt — \$8 billion — is dubious: every time the debt is tallied it increases by another \$1 billion. Since the Ministry of Finance had no idea of how much foreign debt the country had contracted, the government was forced by creditors to appoint a British firm of accountants to find out.

Since Sudan started defaulting on payments, the arrears due have continued to mount and currently stand at \$1.74 billion. Nearly \$1 billion in arrears to bilateral aid donors, of which three-quarters is arrears due to oil-producing countries. Commercial banks are owed \$658 million and suppliers \$536 million.

By 1981 the government realised the magnitude of the economic crisis and had no option but to turn to the IMF. If it did not follow the policy dictated by the fund, the Paris Club members and the Western commercial banks



Nimeiri: Applying the IMF medicine

would not reschedule the debts and even Arab donors would shut off their aid. The fund's demands for exchanges in Sudan's economic policy were predictable — removal of consumer subsidies, a tight credit policy, reduction in government expenditure, devaluation and a unified exchange rate. The Sudanese pound was devalued in November 1981, sugar prices were raised and the IMF approved a one-year standby arrangement, scrapping an earlier extended three-year arrangement. The commercial banks then rescheduled their loans, though charging a horrendous 1.75 per cent over Libor for it. The Paris Club members followed suit in March 1982.

When Sudan failed to meet the interest payments due to commercial banks at the end of March 1982, the IMF wanted even more stringent economic policies and a further massive devaluation. Failing to get these quickly enough, it did not release the standby funds. Sudan capitulated in September 1982 at the time of the Toronto IMF/World Bank meeting.

South

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Israel's hidden intentions

WHEN ISRAEL invaded Lebanon in June of last year Prime Minister Menachem Begin declared that the sole purpose of the incursion was to secure Israel's northern borders from Palestinian attacks originating from their strongholds in South Lebanon. One year later the main obstacle to Israel's withdrawal from the South, the Israelis and the Americans say, is Syria's refusal to pull its forces from Lebanese territories.

This misleading excuse has been used until now to cover Israel's real intentions in South Lebanon. It has been cemented by the United States when it accepted the condition that troop withdrawal from Lebanon should be simultaneous on both sides, thus ignoring a unanimous UN Security Council resolution which demanded a full and unconditional Israeli pullout from Lebanon.

And despite Israeli assurances that their tactical withdrawal to the Awali river should not be interpreted as a step toward the detachment of the South from Lebanon, latest reports show a growing trend on Israel's side to do so. If Israel is sincere in its quest to evacuate its troops from Lebanon without any infringement of Lebanese sovereignty, then this is the time to prove it.

Israel has no right to demand a Syrian pullout from Lebanon as a condition for the termination of its illegal presence in Lebanon. The Syrian presence in Lebanon was the result of a Lebanese-Arab consensus and it should end through the same process.

If anyone should be blamed for the current deadlock in the situation in Lebanon and the continued Israel's occupation of the South, it is the United States and no one else. By pressuring Syria to accept the troop withdrawal accord and tying this approval to an all-troop withdrawal it has given Israel the excuse to prolong its occupation and establish itself in the South.

The subject of Syria's presence in Lebanon should be left to the Arabs and the Lebanese to deal with after the Israeli pullout has been achieved. Otherwise we are left to doubt the real intentions of the United States in Lebanon and its yet unfulfilled promise to get Israel out from the South.

Arabs must help Sudan

FINANCIAL CRISES in Third World countries, of course, are the rule rather than the exception these days. They have been particularly vulnerable to the combined debilitating effects of inflation and recession, which together emptied their coffers of foreign exchange and suspended the process of development.

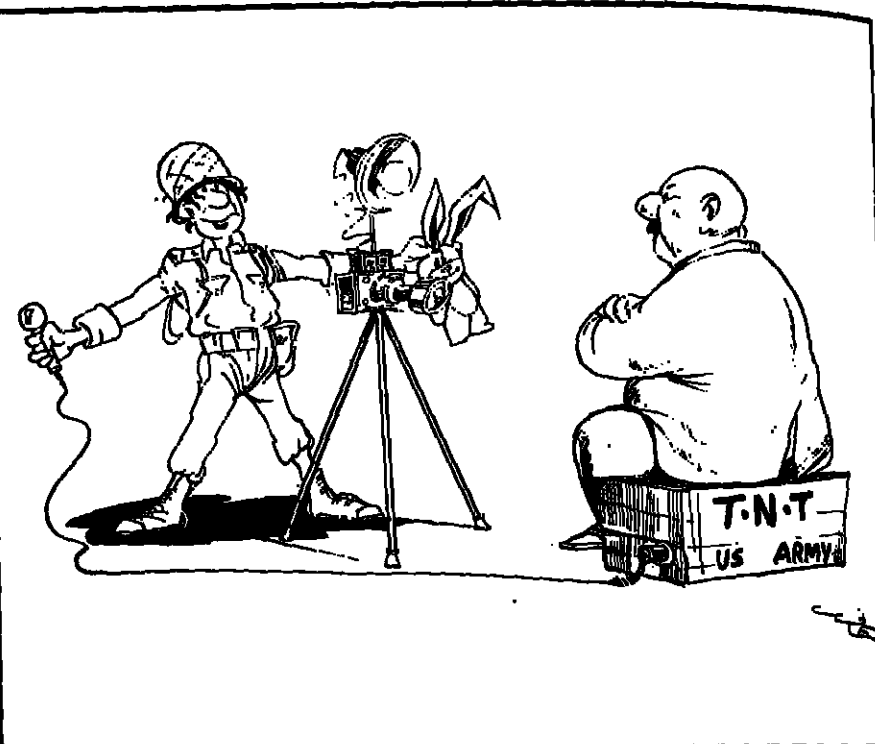
In the Arab World we have for the most part been able to avoid these difficulties — naturally, due to the oil wealth that many of the Arab countries have. This bounty has been well enough shared, and our economies have been well enough managed, that regardless of all our other difficulties, Arab countries in general compare favourably with the economic difficulties of many in, say, Africa and South America.

But now we turn around, and all of a sudden, we see Sudan — an Arab state and the largest country in Africa — in the throes of an appalling debt problem (see page 13). If the country was once called the potential breadbasket of the Arab world, now it is the Arab world's economic basket case. Owing at least \$8 billion to foreign creditors, it is already in default by \$1.74 billion. The crisis has forced the country to seek IMF help and submit to the fund's strict requirements.

This situation has come about within the space of only a few years. It is attributed to three factors: planning mistakes, poor management and the rise in oil prices. The comparison of Sudan's import costs with export earnings shows that for the foreseeable future, the country will not be able to meet its debt commitments. And out of the unpaid debt arrears, \$750 million is said to be to oil-producing countries, of which we must assume the majority are Sudan's Arab brothers.

The plight of Sudan is one that should never have happened. Management could have been better; imports and brain-drain could have been controlled. But the real point here is, how did the Arab world let Sudan collapse? Who can believe that the oil import bill of an Arab country could rise no less than 17 times within nine years?

Sudan's loss of skilled labour has been mainly to Arab oil countries. The largest part of its debt default is also to them. These are the countries that must help — by more generous financial support and by remembering that Sudan is an Arab brother.



A final comment on Afify

To the editor:

It seems that the prolonged issue of Iranian Afify's letter (13 July) is dragging on, but I believe debating the issue is quite useful towards a better understanding in our Jordanian society.

As a Jordanian and a student at the Jordan University, I must say that I agree with Mureed Hammad's view on the subject, and in reply to the anonymous writer who refused to mention her name, I must say that in every country there is always the good and the bad.

I do not believe what Mureed meant was that we are all good but he did point out the presence of the bad ones who give the society a bad name, and I have seen few at the university.

Let us hope that by agreeing on this we are able to remove the bad apples from the basket and keep our society as clean as possible for it is after all the land of Ahlan Wa sahlan.

Rana Abdelhadi
Amman

Saving time and labour

To the editor:

I was sent recently on a grain purchasing mission for the Jordan University's farm. I had to buy the grain from the Ministry of Supply's centre at Juweideh. We loaded the truck with grain and drove from the silos to the ground scale, which is about one kilometre away from the silos. There we discovered that the truck was overloaded, so we had to return to the silos and unload some of the grain without exactly knowing how much to take out. Consequently, we had to do this several times, spending most of our time shuttling between the silos and the ground scale.

I wondered why the ground scale was not located exactly under the spout so as to save time and labour, especially when this system is very expensive to buy and install in the first place.

When we pay for such an expensive system such as the ground scale, we must then run it correctly.

All Mansour
Jordan University

Faulty computer or wrong operator?

To the editor:

We got a water bill for JD 182 for 206 cubic metres of water this spring quarter. We are only a family of seven people in a single-family house and it is impossible that we have used so much. Before that we averaged 20 to 24 cubic metres for a comparable period and had bills running from JD 3 and JD 4 up to JD 8 and JD 10.

When we discussed this with friends it turned out that we were not the only ones with this problem. Other people have received bills for hundreds of dinars also. They have credited these monstrous bills to errors committed by the newly installed computer. Looking at it that way I could imagine moving the decimal point in both figures over one place to the left would give us a fairly average bill.

The only fault in this reasoning is that computers do not move unless the operator pushes the keys, buttons or whatever. There is a person or persons sitting at that computer, making mistakes that are throwing the public into a panic. It is rather a shock to get that sort of bill, especially when persons receiving payment insist that the entire amount be paid and then the matter will be sorted out later. Some of us do not like to throw our money around that way.

Name withheld
Amman



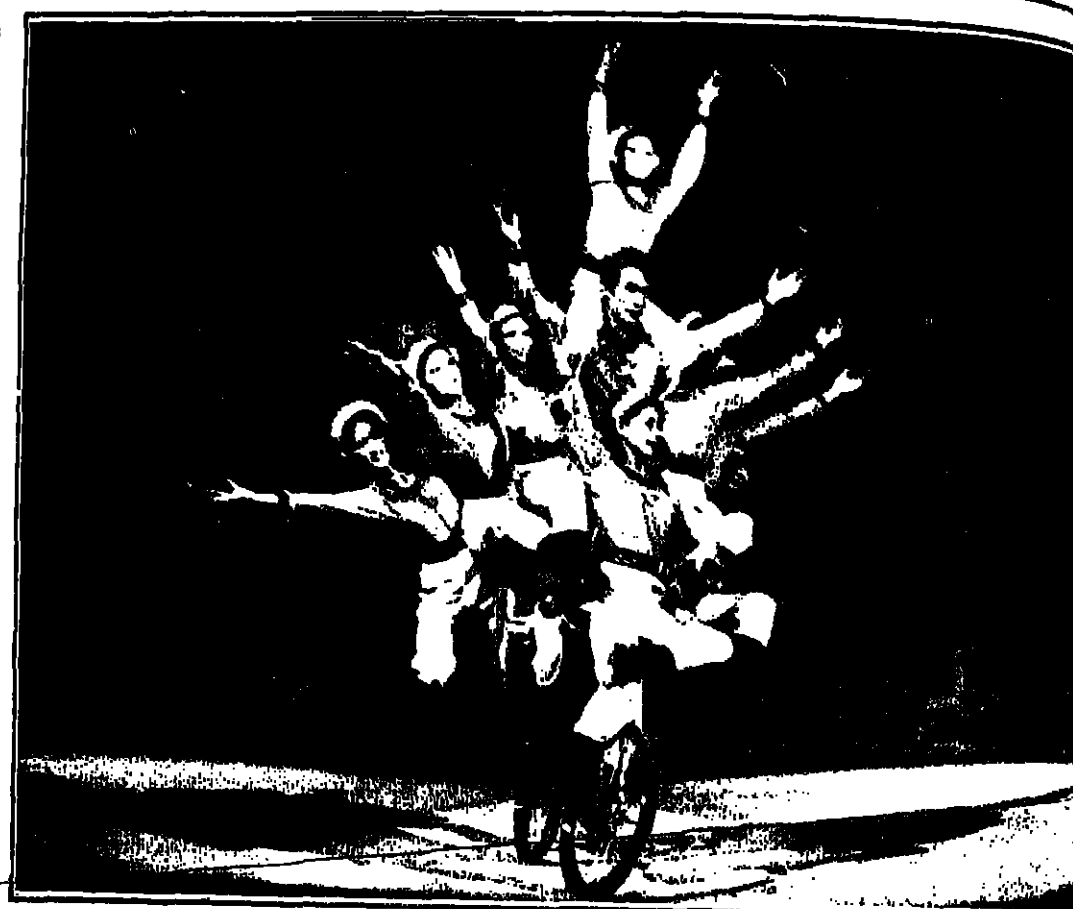
A splendid panorama of the arts

The 1983 Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts has surpassed all expectations with its popularity, its organization and the quality of performances put on there. In this Special Section The Star provides more in-depth looks at some of the groups, on and off stage.



Above, His Majesty King Hussein tours the Jerash Festival with Her Majesty Queen Noor and His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah. Festival Director Mazen Aramouti (to the King's left, with mustache) accompanies the party. Right, the torch of the Jerash Festival erected in the centre of the Forum.





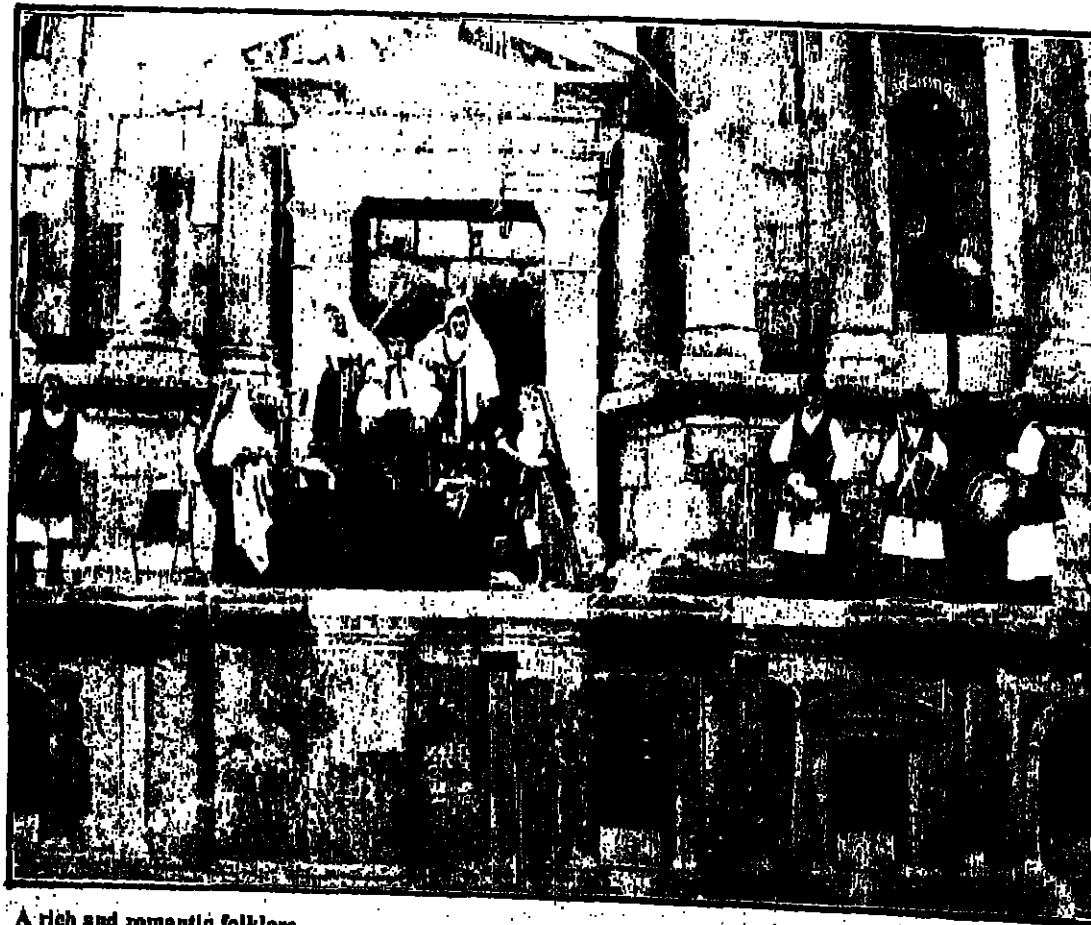
But don't try it in the street

Look at that !

THE CHINESE Acrobatic troupe, the talk of the festival, left audiences breathless at their skill and strength. There seemed little the thirty men and

women couldn't do in a display that seemed most magic. The most impressive acts were the silk ribbon and the Rotating Table.

New use for the dining-table



A rich and romantic folklore

The grace of Mediterranean

FROM THE beautiful Italian island of Sardinia came the "Folk Citta di Oristano". The 29 dancers and musicians brought us dances and musical sketches drawn from the rich folklore of their island. The rhythms of their ancient music made

their performances exceptionally warm and attractive. The romantic dances of the couples and the group dances in large circles where the magic chain reinforces the contact of man with the spirits of nature, both delighted their audiences.

And the pipers came too



IT'S NOT a festival without the pipes but the Pipes and Drums of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were there and filled the bill to perfection.

Intrigingly different...



Like the Jordanian band

THE 50 members of the Jordanian Popular Arts Troupe captivated us with music and dance so different from anything we had seen. The girls were in their well-proportioned figures and

With their heavy, elaborate dresses and

should dance. But they moved with light, grace and such speed that the colours of the costumes blended to be just a swirl of colour and movement. The band was on stage with the dancers and the oriental rhythms of their drums, tambourines, flutes and violins stirred our souls. And when the music stopped, one dancer moved beautifully to the tinkling of her own ankle bells.



The Holi festival symbolizes happiness and fulfillment

The joy of being alive

By Leila G. Deeb
Star Staff Writer

HOLI, the Festival of Colours, signifying the advent of spring, typifies the performance of the Parvatiya Kala Kendra dance troupe from New Delhi. The brilliant colours of the costume, dazzling to the eyes, particularly when complimented with the tinkling silver jewelry of the girls, imparts a sense of thankfulness, tells the world of the joy of being alive.

The last dance performed by the amateur troupe, originally from the Uttarakhand region of the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, it is the climax of the performance. Dabbing pink, yellow and red powder on each other's faces, the dancers whirl around a tree hung with coloured cloths, crying out with the excitement of being alive.

"The dances and songs reflect the atmosphere of the mountains stretching from the west side of the central Himalayas to the east," said troupe director Mohan Upreti. "The flora and fauna of the region affect the composition of the melody and dance steps and tends to make the music soft and elongated. The ruggedness of the mountains is reflected in the modulations."

Assistant Professor of music at the National School of Drama in New Delhi, born in Uttarakhand, Mohan Upreti has contributed to Indian folk tradition by the discovery and revival of some of the songs and dances which were almost lost, and bringing them in contemporary theatre.

"I have adapted the traditional melodies to the modern state — if you take them out of the village they die, like a fish out of water. Something has to be breathed back into them," he said.

On the other hand, he continued, folk dances, as the name implies, come from the people and develop spontaneously.

They are of three types; one is connected with the community, where the whole village participates when fairs are held, or at a religious fair. The community gathers to worship a local deity around the temple, shops spring up, people start dancing.

The second type of dance occurs at the change of the seasons. In spring, particularly, "people get a different kind of feeling and celebrate by composing songs and dances."

Such is the Holi festival, symbolizing happiness and fulfillment. The Holi dance is completely different in music and dance steps, while the other dances are similar with just local variations. The choreography and pattern changes, but it is a linear, not vertical change, distinctive from other parts of India.

The third type is that danced at ceremonies, such as marriages and births, depicting the various stages of man's life.

Discussing the dance forms of his area, Mr. Upreti said that all over the hilly regions of the world dances are circular or semi-circular in formation. His area is not different, but portrays a tenderness, perhaps as a contrast to the ruggedness of the mountains. "One expects dry, monotonous music, but the effect is quite the opposite. Human psychology is such that if you don't get something you dream about it. The suffering of the people, the hard struggle to maintain life in the mountains, the relationship of man with nature, are all reflected in the content of the songs and dances—dreaming of a more prosperous life and a better future."

This is all portrayed by the dances, the songs, and the performers, capturing the atmosphere of the region, unique in India. "That is why our government chose our group to come here," concluded Mr. Upreti.



The music has a surprising tenderness

Hall-Rogers: To the beat of a different drummer

"BEAUTY is truth and truth beauty," Keats knew what he was talking about and it was just such beauty that the Hall-Rogers Modern Dance Troupe presented at the Jerash Festival.

The harmony and integrity in the expressive, innovative choreography was fantastic. The twists and turns, the gliding, jumping and walking, the facial as well as body expressions were elegant, precise and flexible. Each movement provoked images, fanciful ideas and a story of its own.

Wendy Rogers is no stranger to the innovative, modern dance tradition. She studied modern dance for twenty years before she formed her present company in California. Her four-member group is full of vitality, ideas and inspiration.

"The dances we do are hard to describe," Wendy told the Star. "Each

one of us develops her own movements and patterns. We pick up all that we've learned and seen and then do things our own way.

The dances do have ballet movements but in the modern style. "The early pioneers of modern dance rebelled against ballet. They wanted to express their feelings in a new way, a more up-to-date way," she said. "Modern dance possesses a greater freedom of expression than the traditional forms."

At the festival the group performed a special dance entitled "Beauty." It presented the ancient ruins with images of their people and the memory of their lives in sometimes still, sometimes fast movement.

Dressed in long orange shirts and black trousers and barefoot the group also presented such dances as "Mirage," "Dust Devils," "Distant Landscapes" and "Oasis."

Each dance lived up to its title. "Mirage" was playful, shimmering and ghost-like. "Dust Devils" was mischievous, just as the dust devils are. The dancers impersonated the whirling of dust, the turning and swinging. "Oasis" was gentle, peaceful and calm as water in the midst of the desert. "Distant Landscapes" was full of wide space and shifting, distant forms.

"We have been playing on the idea we have of the Arabs," said Wendy, "trying to put it in our dances." California shares the sunshine, the desert and the dry, summer hills of the Middle East. We did our best to bring these into our own work.

As part of the same programme, fellow American Lucinda Hall presented her solo dances. In "Landscapes painted in movement" she gave a dance that was somewhere between gymnastics and ballet as she lay face down on the floor and rotating on her toes.

'Sleeping Beauty' enchants as much as it amuses

"SLEEPING BEAUTY" is one of the fairy tales that is enjoyed by all adults as well as children. Originally French, this legend with which we all grew up, is a love story that mingles the extraordinary with the ordinary. In the triumph of heroism over evil, a prince-charming awakes a kingdom from a 100-year slumber to a life of love with just a tiny kiss.

Imagine how this fairy tale would be with oriental inspiration. The Empire State Institute for the Performing Arts (ESIPA) has done just that. Pro-

duced by playwright Richard Shaw and directed by Joseph Belfair, the play has been married into the Japanese tradition of Kabuki and Noh theatre.

One is amazed at the performers as they stand statue-like at the opening scene, dressed in lavish elegant costumes and wearing white face makeup, all of which makes them seem doll-like.

Integrated along with the precise and beautiful movements are Japanese instrumental music played on the stage right in front of the audience, dancing, soft singing and speech.

The picture-designed screens, masks and ribbons are very impressive. As Beauty grows up, the pictured screen of a cherry tree grows up with her — from a young tree with short branches, to that with hanging, heavy blossoms.

Joel Arceste plays the part of a grandfather figure story-teller. His voice reaches out to the audience, giving the impression of a wise, trustworthy elder. It is his story, the love story of how he met his wife, that he is narrating. — his wife is none other but Beauty herself. John McGuire III is the young prince who, after many struggles finally triumphs over evil. Tall and thin, the Sea Prince gave a lively performance, putting all his effort into body expressions.

The wicked old ogress, played by Carolyn Marble Valenti, provoked contradictory emotions in the audience. Her brutal treatment of her slaves and her foot-long red fingernails provoked laughter, while her sharp sneering voice and shrill hysterical laughter brought goosebumps to the audience.

Carol McGee-Russell, as Beauty, performed an elegant choreographed dance. Although her lines were only few, she expressed the importance of the one and only life to live — the life of love and peace.

Formally established in 1982, the ESIPA is a consolidation of two performing organizations, the Empire State Youth Theatre Institute which was established in 1974 as an artistic — educational component of the State University of New York and the resident performing company of the Egg (the Performing Arts Centre of Albany's Empire State Plaza).

In an interview with the Star, Patricia Gioia, ESIPA Public Relations Ass-

istant, said that the ESIPA is one of its kind in the States because in addition to performing, the artists also teach at the ESIPA school. The group also per-

forms at prisons, takes part in community programmes and performs in children's festivals throughout the world.

In one of Sleeping Beauty's lighthearted scenes, the wicked ogress turned herself into a gentle old lady to fool Beauty.

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...and don't forget...

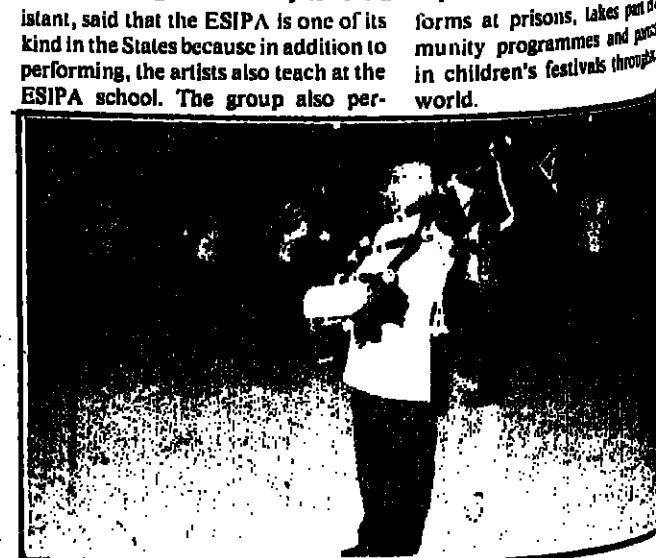
THE RECEPTION given to the visiting performers of various nationalities, however popular they were, could not outweigh the enthusiasm raised by Jordan's own native talent. Some of the highlights: Women of the Allia Folk Troupe entertain with song (top left); the Jordan Armed Forces Band fields its disciplined pipes and drums (top right); Allia's dancing men get their chance (bottom right) and men of the Yarmouk University troupe take the stage (bottom left).



Wendy Rogers (third from left) and her colleagues give their interpretation



In one of Sleeping Beauty's lighthearted scenes, the wicked ogress turned herself into a gentle old lady to fool Beauty.



VIEWPOINT

The desperate need to forgive in Lebanon

By Ya'coub Jaber

THE CRISIS in Lebanon is bound to continue and escalate into a full-scale civil war, unless the Lebanese themselves finally agree on national reconciliation. It must be based on equality and effective participation by all parties in running the country's affairs — the only means for Lebanon to survive as a state and a homeland.

The recent bloody fighting in Lebanon stems mainly from the attempt by one group to dominate the country and administer it in its own way.

To put it bluntly, the Phalangists have been trying to overpower the other Lebanese factions and monopolize the reins of power. Their long-term objective seems to be a Phalangist-run state with the other groups playing virtually no effective part in the decision-making process.

They are said to be using the need to build up a strong national army as a means of filling military ranks with their supporters. Some groups have been complaining that senior government posts are being given to the Phalangists or their backers.

The Phalangists' bid to control Lebanon emanates from the misconception that the Israeli invasion and the departure of Palestinian fighters from Beirut have made them the only local force capable of running post-war Lebanon and imposing its own political ideas on a population desperately looking for a strong leadership after years of disintegration and devastating strife.

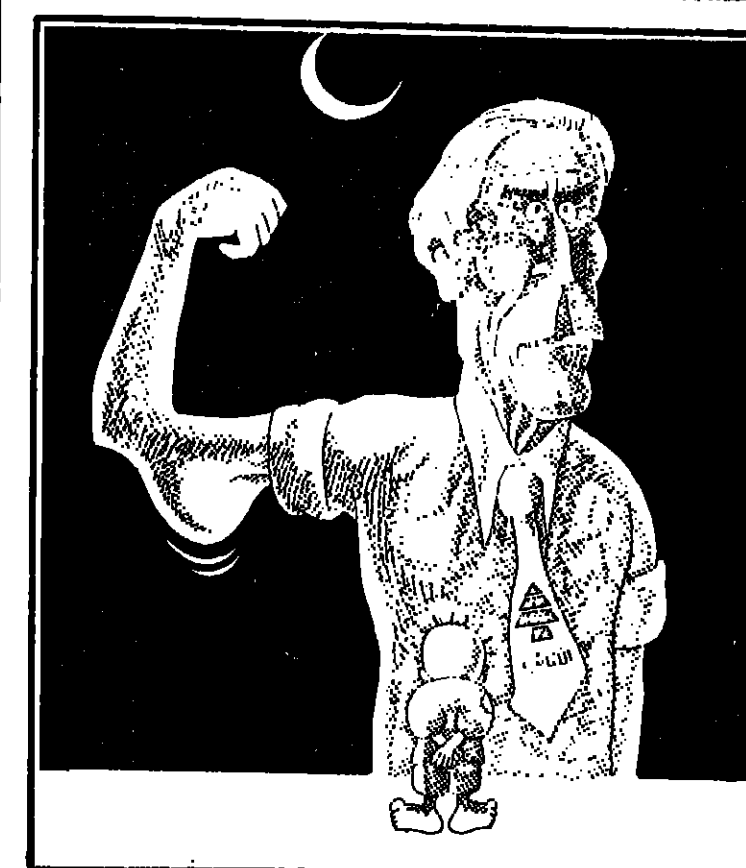
In their rush to seize power, the Phalangists have overlooked the fact that Lebanon's stability has always hinged on a delicate balance among its various political and religious factions. The Israeli invasion may have shifted the balance a bit in their favour, but it is not affected the traditional social and political structure which has dominated the Lebanese scene for centuries.

If there is really a need now to end the pre-war power-sharing formula, it should be done with the aim of doing justice to some factions who constitute considerable percentages of the population.

The old formula, nevertheless, can still be applied provided that no group tries to encroach on the rights of the others.

Judging from his actions and remarks, President Gemayel is aware of the increasing need for national unity. Yet at the moment he seems unable to free himself of the Phalangist pressure.

But the escalation of violence and the spectre of partition must continually convince all, including Phalangists, that past grudges must be forgotten and a new era of tolerance, tolerance and understanding must begin if Lebanon is to survive.



THE SITUATION in the Middle East in general, and the escalating violence in Lebanon in particular, are this week's main editorial themes.

The Egyptian newspapers Al-Ahram warns against sticking to the argument that time is on the side of Arabs. Israel is using every minute to consecrate its occupation of Arab lands, it says. Israel's undeclared aim in the current negotiations, as well, is the consecration of Lebanon's partition.

The paper draws evidence for its argument from a statement made recently by former US National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, that Israel's complete withdrawal from Lebanon would shift the focus to its occupation of the West Bank and Gaza — something which is unacceptable to the government of Menachem Begin.

"Israel is taking measures in the West Bank and Gaza in line with a strategic objective based on annexation, and it wants the world to be pre-occupied with the question of foreign military presence in Lebanon until its measures are complete," writes the Egyptian daily.

It concludes by stressing the need to separate the question of Lebanon from the issue of the occupied Palestinian territory so that negotiations over the two problems can be conducted at the same time.

"We don't have to wait until the Lebanese crisis is resolved to tackle the question of the West Bank and Gaza," says Al-Ahram.

The Qatari newspaper Al-Arab expresses the view that the situation in Lebanon is getting worse as the "isolationist groups" are collaborating with Israel in striking at the Lebanese nationalist forces.

"The isolationist groups are playing a serious role aimed at disintegrating Lebanon and subjecting it to the hegemony of one faction and then letting Israel achieve its goals in that Arab country," writes Al-Arab.

Paying tribute to the efforts of the nationalist forces in trying to prevent the implementation of this plan, the Qatari paper calls on Arab states to render support to these nationalist groups so as to preserve Lebanon's unity and independence.

Another Qatari newspaper, the English-language daily Gulf-Times, expresses deep regret over renewed fighting among rival Lebanese groups, adding that the Lebanese should have learned a hard lesson from the many years of devastating civil strife and from the Israeli invasion of their country.

"Lebanon's agonizing experience of past years should serve as a strong incentive for national unity and cohesion," writes the paper.

It goes on to say that President Amin Gemayel faces major challenges as the memory of the civil war is still alive, and the country is under the Israeli occupation, almost bleeding to death.

The paper expresses sorrow at Arab reticence over the situation in Lebanon. Although Arab states have long realized that Israel's policy is aimed at splitting the Arab world into mini-sectarian states, it says, still they do nothing to prevent such a plan from being implemented in Lebanon as a first step towards similar moves in other parts of the region.

The Gulf-Times concludes by calling for an emergency Arab summit conference whose main task would be to achieve Lebanese national reconciliation and put an end to the Israeli occupation.

Al-Wihda in Abu Dhabi voices cautious optimism over recent trends in Lebanon to resort to dialogue instead of fighting to achieve understanding.

It also says that there are signs that the Lebanese are heading towards holding a conference of national reconciliation which could be the real beginning of an end to its dilemma.

The paper asserts that the achievement of national unity is not an easy mission, but success depends mainly on dropping the labels of "vanquished" and "conqueror", and keeping the army free of sectarian conflicts.

On the mission of US special envoy Robert McFarlane, Al-Fajr newspaper of Abu Dhabi writes that the mission is bound to fail as long as the United States maintains a policy of trying to impose hegemony on the Arabs through Israel.

It goes on to say that Mr. McFarlane has come to the area carrying the Israeli

demands which are rejected by the Arabs. Mr. McFarlane may have come to the Middle East with the aim of freezing the situation until the US presidential elections are over, it says. If that is his mission, Al-Fajr predicts success in maintaining the present stalemate.

The Israeli paper Al-Hamishmar says that the only alternative for the government is to withdraw from Lebanon. "Defence Minister Arens himself, as reported in the news, has reached this conclusion because a state like Israel facing huge economic difficulties compelling it to trespass on social security, old age, infancy and social security funds, cannot continue with its presence in Lebanon," it says.

With its huge economic problems, Israel cannot open roads in Lebanon while hundreds of Israelis die on Israeli roads. Likewise, Israel cannot spend its income on erecting a new defence line in Lebanon while economic collapse and bankruptcy are threatening agricultural settlements, Al-Hamishmar says.

Some of the measures taken by the ministry of finance reveal some positive aspects, it says, but the value added tax on vegetables and fruits will do away with organized marketing. Hence the government should not adopt negative measures to protect people of limited income.

Also in Israel, Koteret Rashit says it is in Israel's interest to quit Lebanon, and that developments in the Shouf mountains prove it. The test facing the Israeli government is similar to that facing the government of Lebanon.

"Israel is responsible for the safety of its people wherever they exist. We must not wait until the disaster strikes but the government ought to admit the failure of the war in Lebanon and to order the army to withdraw from there," the paper says.

Israel's Yediot Aharanot writes that the inmates of Al-Ansar concentration camp in Lebanon and their guards have something in common: "both parties long to get away from the place."

Israel cannot release the prisoners because it would lose face; thus the camp has become another symbol of the abortive Israeli adventure in Lebanon.

A Kuwaiti newspaper, Al-Rai Al-Aam, lashes out at a suggestion that the US should accept 50,000 Palestinians for resettlement. It says the projected American plan coincides with the Israeli attempt to annex the West Bank and Gaza, and to force Palestinians there to depart.

Israel's Haolam Haze comments that statements made by Secretary of State George Shultz on settlement in the West Bank do not imply a change in the American policy towards the occupied territories.

"To take such statements as proving a new trend in Washington to reconsider its policy is not only an exaggeration but also is evidence of ignorance of the bases of American policy," it says.

It recalls that President Reagan stated that the settlements are illegal, and then came the American veto in the Security Council accompanied by the explanation that the dismantling of settlements is impractical. Finally came Mr. Shultz's statement about the right of Jews to settle in the West Bank.

"Those who make such statements emphasize on every occasion that the settling up of settlements represents an obstacle in the way of a political settlement," Haolam Haze writes. "Shultz's statement is acceptable because there is no reason to prevent

Jews from settling anywhere on earth under foreign sovereignty.

"In short, the United States does not approve of the annexation policy adopted by the government of Israel."

Ad-Dustour newspaper of Amman describes the Lebanese government's positive response to opposition demands as a constructive gesture and a step in the right direction.

"The change of policy by President Gemayel's administration will help in solving the chronic crisis in Lebanon and put an end to factional fighting," remarks the Jordanian daily.

The Beirut government's readiness to respond to the opposition's demands, and its willingness to organize a national conference, signal a policy of reconciliation that could lead to Lebanon regaining its national unity.

Ad-Dustour concludes by saying that an end to the crisis in Lebanon would mean an end to Israel's pretence for maintaining its occupation of that Arab country, and to its dreams of expansion at the expense of Lebanon.

Al-Rai also in Amman, claims that no armed group in Lebanon can win over other groups and end the conflict decisively in its own interest.

"Due to this simple fact, the only way to salvation lies in a dialogue that could lead to national reconciliation satisfying the needs of the country's various factions," Al-Rai asserts.

In Israel

Davar says economic deterioration has reached an "unbearable level" due to the failure of the government in every respect. The people are requested to correct error after error, to pay for the squandering of public funds and to finance a mad campaign in Lebanon, it says.

"We must not be misled and believe that the declared economic measures represent a sound plan to revive the economy," Davar writes. "They represent random measures to conceal the deficit and to collect funds from the public to finance an abortive policy."

Maariv adds that the government has created a dangerous situation by imposing strict economic measures on the public mainly affecting the poorer classes.

Finance Minister Aridor's economic policy has affected the weak and the most vital services such as maternity grants, medical treatment and appropriations for the young and the aged, it says.

"The government has involved us in a military adventure in Lebanon and has pushed the economy to the abyss. But it has not cut down on settlements, thus showing favour to those who live on the land of Palestinians in the West Bank." On the scandal surrounding Knesset Member Aharon Abu Hatzeira, Hamodia says the sentence against him is "meant to preserve the morale basis of the behaviour of top ranking officials, as it is a reminder to those who are entrusted with public funds that they cannot toy with them as they please."

Haatzefeh adds that Mr. Abu Hatzeira adopted the theory that the best defence is a good offence, and attacked all official circles that interrogated and incriminated him.

"Abu Hatzeira's opinion is not acceptable because two courts have passed the sentence on him," the Israeli paper charges. "The most harmful aspect of this case is that Abu Hatzeira's followers believe in him, and also believe that the judiciary in Israel is dishonest."

**Kamel
Abu
Jaber**



The American veto Part II

Greetings to Jerusalem!

THE WORLD, in particular the Western world, is partly built on the concept of competition and merit. Losers are not only disregarded, their constant wailings and complaints are disdained. Surely, it stands to reason that one can ignore a loser.

As a loser, his wishes really do not count for much, for he does not have power; or has rendered himself powerless. A winner, on the other hand, is not only to be noticed, he can, in most cases dictate his own terms. Such dictates can be immediate, as, for example after the conclusion of a conflict or, they may take several years, as in the case of Israel since 1967.

It does no good to complain that Israel is not doing this alone but with the help of powerful allies. It should, however, be recognized that Israel's marshalling of such powerful allies is a sign of its own power as well. The Arabs have the strategic position, the population, the talent, the know-how, the resources and many other assets. Why, then, are we not capable of marshalling significant allies on our side? Why do we lose not only battles, but United Nations resolutions as well?

Mr. Charles Lichenstein is aware that our weakness is Israel's strength and that is why he could not ignore Israel's wishes in an election campaign and could afford to ignore ours, justice notwithstanding. The Arab resolution, Mr. Lichenstein said, was "unacceptable". He gave some reasons why the United States found it "unacceptable". Reason number one; perhaps the most curious, and somehow inserted where it seemingly has no place, has to do with "forcible transfers of Arab population from the occupied territories".

Forcible "transfers" is a polite term referring to the thousands of Palestinians made refugees since 1948 and 1967 through Israeli terror tactics and methods. Mr. Lichenstein's objection was that, "...The allegation made here is not one of individual deportations... which have, observers recognize, regrettably taken place... but rather a policy of large-scale transfers of Arab population has been pursued..." Mr. Lichenstein added categorically: "... There is no body of evidence to support this allegation..."

One may wonder about the two huge "transfers" of 1948 and 1967, and the continued "transfer" that has left the West Bank and Gaza with less population than they had in 1967, in spite of the very high increase in birth rate. One wonders what is a significant population "transfer" and what is the significance of inserting this into the argument now.

The second reason Ambassador Lichenstein put forth for finding the Arab resolution "unacceptable" was that, although the United States regards the Israeli settlement policy in the occupied territories as an obstacle to a fair and lasting solution; particularly further settlement in urbanized areas such as "Hebron", such argument about their legality is "sterile". "Hebron" is the Israeli name given to the Arab town of al-Khalil.

The Arab and international belief, based on law, that the settlements are illegal, is "sterile" because, as Ambassador Lichenstein stated, it is an "...argument which unfortunately has dominated discussions in the United Nations... to the detriment of the basic issues, namely how to bring about a just and peaceful resolution of the conflict..."

Two comments seem appropriate at this juncture; the first in the form of a question to Mr. Lichenstein: How can the Arabs carry on a meaningful dialogue with an adversary whose daily creeping annexation ever so securely tightens its grip on the occupied territories?

Surely there is evidence for the Arab argument that Israel desires expansion, not peace! Since when has it become fashionable to term "sterile" the injured party's efforts to defend itself even in mere words?

The second comment concerning this issue is directed to the certainly intentional remark, on "... further settlement activity in urbanized areas..." Does the United States now feel that only settlements in the urbanized areas are "an obstacle to a fair and lasting solution..."?

Does that mean that Israeli settlement elsewhere in the occupied territories is no longer an obstacle? This is not only a retreat from previous American stands, but a very dangerous one as well. In essence, it legitimizes the existing settlements in the wake of President Reagan's call for putting a "freeze" on them.

In further justifying the US veto, Mr. Lichenstein stated, "We do not believe, however, that it is at all practical or even appropriate to call for the dismantling of the existing settlements..." This writer too has always questioned the Arab sense of propriety; though for different reasons. Such repeated, weak, ineffective and murky resolutions at the United Nations have not only made a mockery of our cause in the eyes of the world, but have given repeated opportunity to some of those who have stood with us to retreat and stand against us.

Perhaps what we should do is just lodge our complaint with the Secretary General to register our legal stand but not call for further ineffective condemnatory resolutions.

Zionism and the West: The secret link

IT IS my intention to expatiate on the contention that Zionism as an ideology is the product of European middle class thought artificially improvised by middle class capitalist Jewry for their own benefit. That in practice, it is a colonialist movement that has to be looked upon by every Arab as an extension of the pre-war defunct colonialism of the West and as the natural ally and tool of the post-war neo-imperialism.

Such contention logically carries the inevitability of contradiction between Zionism and its Western allies, a fact that Arabs should play upon in such a way as to accelerate the forthcoming real and sharp conflict between the co-partners.

As for the fact that Zionist ideology was originally fabricated by middle class Jewish thinkers for the preservation of their interests at the expense of lower labour classes, some informative evidence can be cited. As early as 1885, it was suggested by Theodor Hertzl, the founder of Zionism and the son of a rich middle class merchant that "a constitutional monarchy" or "an aristocratic republic" be established in Palestine, where middle-class Jewry would be able to plunder fellow-Jews without fear of any deterrent. Hertzl even added "Affluent Jews, who now are compelled to conceal their treasures and to celebrate their fears behind down-drawn curtains, would be able in their would-be state to enjoy their time freely."

In order to put such aspirations into effect, Zionism acted like Fascism and Nazism, the other two outgrowths of middle class fanatic reaction and aggressive colonialism. Zionist leaders fell back upon an outdated racial idea that anti-semitism is a permanently alive feature of non-Jewish communities. And cleverly enough did Zionist leaders exploit this issue for the double end of driving really indoctrinated anti-Semites, like the Nazis, to augment their terrorist atrocities against

non-conformist Jews, and of convincing the victims that the best way to combat such terrorism is to seek refuge in Palestine where every Jew can feel safe under the protection of their racial superiority and blood purity.

Zionist leaders did not hesitate to sympathize or even secretly ally themselves with racial movements such as German Nazism and South African

By Henry Matar

Apartheid for the purpose of achieving the ultimate end of establishing the Zionist state of Israel.

In theory, the foundations of this "entente" between anti-semitism and Zionism were again laid by Theodor Hertzl. It was he who wrote in his memoirs: "Here in Paris, I have come to look at anti-semitism, through a wider perspective. I am just beginning to understand it historically speaking and to be ready to forgive it. I even admit the futility and uselessness of the struggle against anti-semitic movements." Later on, when Israel was established, Ben Gurion, a devoted disciple of Hertzl, did not find it embarrassing to declare: "I unashamedly confess that if I had an authority with my desires, I would choose a good number of youthful devotees of our cause, and would give them orders to pretend they were no Jews just to harass fellow-Jews with anti-semitic cruel measures. For if it were possible to do so, immigration into Israel would have grown as ten thousand fold as it has already done in spite of our delegates' sermons that fall on deaf ears."

And in practice Ben Gurion's wishes had once come true. For soon after Hitler assumed power in Germany, Hermann Goring urged Zionist leaders to settle the news about Jews' massacres; and strangely enough the "protectors of God's chosen people," readily responded to the appeal. According to the Israeli journalist, Yuri

Avnery, "Zionist leadership... nothing during the war to save from being exterminated in occupied Europe."

In their book "Secret War" John and David Kimche expose the role Levi Eshkol, the Israeli minister during the sixties, played as employee at the "Palestine House" in Berlin under Hitler's regime. He held a high figure as Von Miliutek, Gestapo chief for "Jewish affairs" help the activities of Zionists in their endeavours to "educate camps" in Palestine.

In brief, Israel has been created by all means, as an imposture, come of middle-class Jewry, of, or to brainwash, the Western Jewish elite. For what? To plait the fact that around seven million wealthy middle class still insist on living outside Israel, on backing it up with money, influence? Has not Israel been financed by affluent Jewish class families that still refuse to leave Israel, like the Rothschild family, serve their interests and those of their counterparts?

And this is the link between Jewish capitalists and hands of affluent and monopolist capital Europe and America to exploit the Arab Middle East and to exploit its resources.

Had it not been for the alliance between Zionism and pre-war West, which has come to the open in the recent struggle between the United States and this state would not have been managed to achieve its aggressive aims. This only proves that the West co-operating with Israel to keep power down and to plunder world wealths and oil reserves particular.

The cosmic lesson

DURING MY holiday a month ago, I hiked with two friends of mine through the southern tip of the Sinai peninsula. Our destination from the town of Suez was St. Catherine's Monastery and it took us two days to get there.

At one point of our trek across the stark desert we had to walk for six hours in the middle of the night to get to the monastery. We were struck by the beauty and clarity of the sky that night. Our fears of being attacked by a pack of hungry wolves or bitten by an irritated snake were vaporized and calmed as we saw millions of stars and constellations so clear and visible to the naked eye, parts of which were magically hidden from us some times by the great black profile of the ancient Sinai mountains.

A strange and infatigable feeling overwhelmed us as we entered one lonely valley after the other with this cosmic view embracing us wherever we went. I thought of how few times during our lifetime we force ourselves out of our cozy offices and drive into the desert to witness this magnificent silent opera taking place since time immemorial. How trivial our personal dreams and shrewd schemes would be in the face of this unknown and daring universe. It acts as a reminder that we are just a small thread in the fabric of this unlimited space.

Last week I was reminded the Sinai scene as I watched an episode of Carl Sagan's epic "Cosmos". The programme showed the details of Viking I and II landing on planet Mars. I was struck by the collective human effort and intelligence that went into the making of the space ships. How intricate and

organized were their equipment: their sensors and instant laboratories. Every detail carefully planned and executed by the ship's crew here on Earth. The intelligence and capabilities of mathematicians, geologists, biologists and other technology experts to launch this massive project into space.

How proud all humans should be as they see the great efforts of man to know more about himself and his universe materialise as the Viking landings on the legendary red planet.

But as man pools his intelligence to create ships that will expand his knowledge about himself and the universe of which he is an essential part, he has also enslaved science to create massive destruction tools, which has presented our children with nuclear nightmares.

Man should recognize the fragility of this beautiful planet we are inhabiting in comparison to the million dead planets that swarm pensively in space. He should realize, as he watches this opera that takes place every night, as it has for the last billion years, that there should be an end to irresponsible behaviour which is driven by greed, power and ignorance and which is disturbing the delicate balance of life on Earth.

Man should think twice before he wanders deeply into the labyrinth of his own greed that leads his race and planet into eternal loss. If he ignores the cosmic signs then he will suffer only proof of life in the womb of the universe.

Jordan's invisible assets

By Ahmad Al-Anani
Special to the Star

HIS NAME is M.H. Oudeh. I need not make any further disclosures about his person for just one simple reason, namely, that he is merely a typical sample of Jordanian nationals holding junior jobs here and there in the Gulf.

The tide has no doubt been turning against this status of expatriates to the point that some of them are ashamed of going back empty-handed to Jordan. Many of them are harassed by incessant increase of their families' needs and the simultaneous decrease of their earnings. Incomes are running lower while prices are kept at their high rates.

The nationals of countries like India, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Somalia, Sudan and Egypt who still find chances for entry to Gulf states constitute a formidable danger to Arab nationals in junior jobs of a administrative, financial and secretarial nature and jobs in such fields as construction.

The influx of cheaper labour is inevitable against all assertions to the contrary. It is caused by the influence of pressure-groups who are always eager for importation of cheap labour regardless of all future dangers arising from imbalance of ethnic entities in the Gulf states.

Only recently I found myself in a big commercial street where shops showed Indian saris cloth and all kinds of Indian brass and wood manufacture, Indian vegetables, grocery goods and fruit. I heard no word of Arabic. The place was reminiscent of a day I spent in Dubai, where one can easily maintain the belief of being in Bombay.

Now back to Mr. Oudeh and his daily strife. You wonder how this man struggles now-a-days to make both ends meet. He is the father of two sons and a daughter. He holds a very junior post in an accountancy office for which the salary is hardly big enough to cover the expenses of the house rental, electricity, water and gas consumption.



DIMITRIS SGOUROS: "I have a gift."

Prof and prodigy at 13

PROFESSOR DIMITRIS Sgouros, professor of piano from the Athens Conservatoire, was waxing eloquent on interpretations of Beethoven, the perfection of his technique and his skills at sight-reading.

"I only have to play a concerto and then I know it after just one reading."

Professor Sgouros, who is also partial to cycling, computer games and discotheques, is 13 years old. This young man, untouched by any notions of false modesty or humility, is the latest prodigy to arrive on the international music circuit. He made his London debut in March, when the critics marvelled at this mini-Horowitz's mastery of the challenging Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No. 3.

Besides he has to put his hand deep in his pocket to pay for the appropriate schooling of two of his offspring in a private institution here.

Mr. Oudeh silently and most tactfully handles a number of typewriting jobs. He works for me on three afternoon shifts. I witness to Allah I never met a better person in doing justice to his work. He accomplishes fivefold the quantity of the poor-quality typing of his full-time colleague. From time to time there emerges an opportunity for Mr. Oudeh to help us in our office here in the reading of proofs of books under printing. You cannot find a more careful and knowledgeable man to do this particular work as best it should be done.

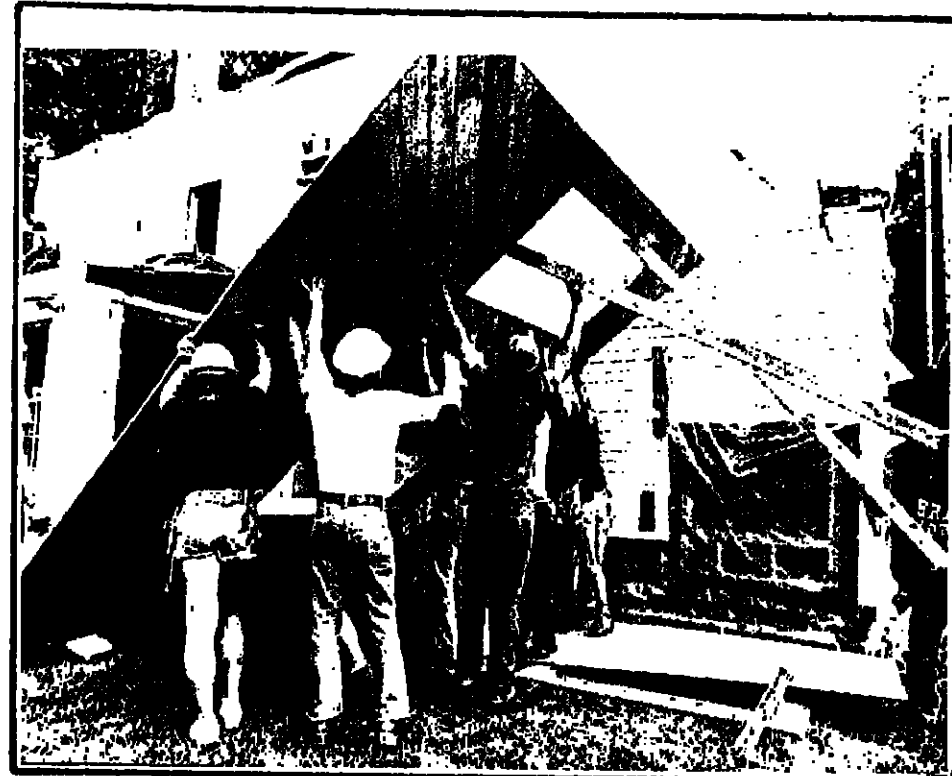
The man does not seem to allow himself any portion of rest because I happened, by sheer chance, one afternoon, to see him enter the southern wing of my friend Sh. X's house. In that wing private teaching jobs were performed for the sons of my dignitary friend.

What else Mr. Oudeh must be doing is no guess of mine because, as I mentioned before, he moves in utter privacy. It is my conviction that his stirring character introduces him easily to where he may find benefits. He gives real service for the money he earns, and wherever he may exist he would cause no friction or bad impression of any kind.

This class of junior Jordanian officials in the Gulf and Saudi Arabia deserve real respect. They create and preserve their chances abroad by real perseverance, and high morality. But the wind is blowing now-a-days against their sails and I tend to believe that a high percentage of them shall have to make good their return to their homeland in Jordan.

Does that inaugurate an era of fresh and serious challenge to Jordan's economy? My job is to draw attention to this potential problem in Jordan in the near future.

Economists however may be less apprehensive and less pessimistic about it all. They may consider the return of thousands of such hands a real blessing. I pray that it will be so!



'People are a lot more capable than they believe'

Owner building in the United States booms

By Peter Tonge

ON A wooded mountainside in Maine, in the northeastern United States, Fred and Helen Kennedy are building the home they've talked about for years.

They are doing it themselves with occasional help from friends who drop by, and hope to complete the 1,200-square-foot (112-square-metre) house for about \$12,000. When the snows of winter cut short the operations just before the roof went up, they were, financially speaking, "right on target."

David and Margaret Erdman are adding considerably to their suburban Boston, Massachusetts home by extending it at the back and adding a two-story greenhouse. Further, they are raising the roof of a nearby rental property which they recently acquired.

Both the Kennedys and the Erdmans are building by using a practice which is often called "sweat equity."

By some estimates some 200,000 owner-builder homes will be constructed in the United States this year — testimony to the growing influence of owner-builder schools.

There are perhaps a score or more such schools now operating, but the forerunners of the movement are two Maine operations, Shelter Institute of Bath and Cornerstones Energy Group of

nearby Brunswick, followed by the California-based Home Building Center.

Cold winters and the consequent need for tight, energy-efficient housing are the principal reasons the build-your-own home movement began in Maine. But many who could afford to buy a standard home realize that they can get much more for their money by building it themselves. Still others don't like the type of home the construction industry is offering.

"We offer an alternative to people who had just about given up the idea of ever owning their own home," says Robert Roskind, co-founder of the Owner Builder Center in Berkeley, California.

"We do much more than teach people how to build a house," says Charlie Wing, who, with Pat and Patsy Hennin, founded the Shelter Institute in 1974 and moved out two years later to begin Cornerstones.

"We get them thinking deeply about just what a house is and what they want from it. In particular, we show them how to build a structure that won't cost the earth to live in once it's up. It will be largely maintenance-free and will cost pennies to heat and cool where tract houses currently cost dollars."

As Pat Hennin puts it: "Society has led people to believe...that building houses is beyond them. We show them that it is not. People are a lot more capable than they believe."

(Christian Science Monitor)

'Pop'breaks language barrier

IN MORE than 40 countries "students" ranging from Dutch housewives to retired Chinese professors of English and teenagers are followers of Pedagogical Pop. This is the BBC's English by Radio series which takes a popular song every week and explains the meaning of the words in a fifteen minute broadcast.

The programmes, which are first transmitted on scheduled overseas services, can later be obtained from the corporation's transcription service by any radio station giving a firm undertaking to play them.

"The younger generation want to know about western pop music and this is a tremendous incentive to learning English," says producer Sue Cokyll, who has compiled several of the programmes.

"The series is not progressive — that is working towards a higher level — but de-

signed to interest people generally in English. Songs chosen must not contain sex, ambiguity, religion, politics or violence and we try to avoid too much idiom," she said.

This is clearly a difficulty in the pop world, for the opening line in a programme on Paul McCartney's "Ballroom Dancing", runs "Well I used to smile when I was a pup, sailing down the Nile in a china cup."

The script by English language teachers and read by actors explains that the man is describing his childhood when he was a "pup" in a nonsense song about a fantasy of sailing on the Nile in a drinking vessel made by baking fine clay at high temperature.

Because of its popularity requests for particular numbers to be analysed have come from countries as diverse as Venezuela, Nigeria, Senegal, Greece and Mexico, where the programme is relayed by local radio stations.

(London Press Service)

Don't marry your cousin, says doctor

By Joyce Niles

Special to the Star

CONSANGUINITY, the practice of marrying one's cousin, is the cause of degenerative diseases of the nervous system, Dr. Ashraf Kurd, president of the newly formed Jordanian Neurosciences Society, told The Jerusalem Star.

Most commonly effected are the muscles but these degenerative disorders also damage the nervous system; brain, spinal cord and the peripheral nerves and are the major source of problems faced by Jordanian neurologists in treating their patients.

Yet the preventative measure against these afflictions is simply itself — don't marry your cousin.

Dr. Kurd discussed patterns of neurologically related diseases in Jordan as compared with western countries, changing attitudes of the public, and the establishment of the Jordanian Neurosciences Society and its objectives.

"Disease patterns are not different in Jordan as compared with a country such as the U.K. except that the incidence of certain diseases varies.

There is less multiple sclerosis here and less subarachnoid haemorrhage due to cerebral aneurysms (strokes), or arterio-venous malformations (defects in the blood vessels)," he said.

"On the other hand there are problems that are rare in the west and these are related to consanguinity. These manifest themselves as weaknesses and degeneration of the nervous system; brain, spinal cord, peripheral nerves but most commonly, the muscles. At the same time the incidence of infections is relatively commoner, resulting in encephalitis (inflammation of the brain)."

Improved awareness

People are becoming more aware of the signs and symptoms of neurological disorders; numbness in any part of the body, arms or legs, episodes of unconsciousness, and others, and they are seeking medical help for their conditions. This includes those people living in the most remote areas. There is a steady and continual improvement in the way that the public views and deals with these disorders. They are coming in to the doctors at earlier stages of their illnesses.

And as the public's attitude improves, physicians also wish to improve and elaborate the services that they can offer to their patients. With this objective in mind, Dr. Kurd established the Jordanian Neurosciences Society in April of this year to include neurologists, neurosurgeons and all specialists whose work is related to this field. Membership encompasses private physicians in



Dr. Ashraf Kurd

both the East and West Banks of Jordan, the Ministry of Health and the Royal Medical Services.

The society's first activity was a day-long programme of lectures held at the Jordan University

Hospital in June and covering the subjects of strokes, headache, fainting, epilepsy, and extensive discussions on the lower back and brain problems. The JNS plans a continuous five- or bi-monthly schedule of lectures and the next major event being a symposium on epilepsy due to be held in September.

International conference

On a wider scope, Dr. Kurd is looking forward to the Pan-Arab Neurosciences Conference which will include international participation and take place in Amman next May. Topics to be discussed then are Cerebro-vascular Disorders, Medical and Surgical Aspects, Intellectual Disorders in Neurological Diseases, and other subjects.

After the conference Dr. Kurd hopes to organise a European-Pan-Arab neuroscience course to which residents and all physicians under training in the Arab world would be invited to attend. And in the area of social development he would like to see the establishment of a national centre for neurological diseases.

"I hope that this would serve as a nuclear post-graduate medical centre in conjunction with the Jordan University Medical School and the Ministry of Health as there is no such centre in the Arab world at present," Dr. Kurd said.

Leprosy: a progress report

By Susan Daniels

THE BANNED drug thalidomide, the armadillo and hopes for a vaccine are all playing a part in the fight against leprosy, the disfiguring disease which afflicts 12 million people around the world.

But reports from the battlefield are disheartening. The bacteria which cause leprosy are becoming resistant to the main anti-leprosy drug; pharmaceutical companies are not particularly interested in the disease, and an effective vaccine is a long way off.

Ironically, only one form of leprosy is infectious, and transmission of this form is so rare that few doctors who specialise in treating leprosy get the disease. And the missing fingers and toes of advanced, untreated leprosy are caused mainly by accidental burns and knocks as feeling is gone. Such losses are preventable with care.

When thalidomide was banned in Europe and North America two decades ago, after it was found to cause birth defects, some stocks of the drug were quickly shipped to developing countries. This scandal had one fortunate side effect.

Doctors gave the sedative to patients experiencing the painful "reaction" stage of leprosy. To their amazement, the reactions abated, and thalidomide is now given to non-pregnant leprosy patients world-wide. It does not cure the disease, but works well against some of the symptoms.

It is ironic that this infamous drug is being used against leprosy when a safe and effective drug, dapson, was found 40 years ago. Many predicted dapson would wipe out the disease.

Treatment

But because leprosy bacteria linger, dapson must be taken for years. Patients, especially in developing countries, tend to stop taking pills when symptoms disappear. Clinics cannot supervise their treatment. Half of all treated patients get inadequate therapy.

Only half of the world's leprosy get any treatment at all. The ostracism of leprosy worldwide keeps many away from clinics, a fact which WHO calls the greatest barrier to effective leprosy control.

There are other barriers. When one drug is given for decades, especially in the on-again, off-again style in which dapson is taken, bacteria may become resistant to it. Some 3 per cent of patients now have relapses due to dapson resistance. More serious are the new cases which are dapson resistant from the outset. These may include as many as 40 per cent of patients in some places.

Alternatives

There are few alternatives. The two other major leprosy drugs, rifampicin and clofazimine, are more toxic than dapson. Clofazimine turns the patient purple. Both are also expensive. In 1979, a



Children given an oil-suspension injection of the anti-leprosy drug dapson do not need daily tablets. But they do need weekly injections. Weight

month of dapson cost 10 cents; clofazimine cost \$1, and rifampicin, \$50.

WHO now advises that all patients be given drug combinations to prevent more resistance. The idea is that the bacteria must be susceptible to at least one drug in a cocktail of several. But WHO's 1981 "multitherapy guidelines" are untested. No one knows if they will work, but everyone agrees that they will make patient management more complex and treatment more expensive.

Will a new drug be invented? Not for at least a decade, according to Hubert Sengaric, head of leprosy at WHO.

Leprosy research is unpopular with the big pharmaceutical firms. First, victims and their governments tend to be poor and unlikely to repay a big research investment. Second, the bacteria must be cultured in the relatively expensive armadillo rather than on the usual glassware. All current anti-leprosy drugs, including thalidomide, were borrowed from other diseases.

determines dosage, so when the child is weighed the amount of dapson to be administered is painted on the child's back.

So WHO's current campaign emphasises non-drug techniques. It was recently found that much leprosy is transmitted by people who do not, perhaps never will, show symptoms. So giving drugs to only the "sick" will never halt the spread of the disease.

WHO is trying out some simple, fast tests for the bacteria in people, to find hidden infections.

The major medicinal work at the moment is the development of a good vaccine. Trials in Venezuela have shown that injected, dead bacteria can induce immunity. Tests to determine whether the vaccine prevents leprosy in a large population get under way within a few months. But it will be 15 years before they are complete.

One method of eradicating the disease has been extensively tested and found to work perfectly. As extreme poverty and overcrowding disappeared in Europe late last century, so did leprosy. In the end, economic development may be the only leprosy therapy which really works.

(Earthscan)

First vaccine go on trial

By Thomas Land

THE FIRST vaccine against leprosy is being put to the ultimate test in controlled human experiments in Norway and India. Further trials are to be held shortly in Britain and North America. A new vaccine has already produced a spectacular improvement in the condition of 300 patients in Venezuela suffering from the most acute form of the disease.

The human trials, which are expected to be widened considerably, are supervised by the United Nations World Health Organisation (WHO) in Geneva. Its specialist spokesman says that it may well take some years to establish the efficiency of the vaccines. But they barely conceal the euphoria of scientists at the new prospect of the eventual complete eradication of the disease.

The human trials follow a series of recent breakthroughs in India, Canada and the United Kingdom, ending the inability of scientists to produce laboratory cultures of the disease organism or to encourage it in animals used for vaccine development.

The Indian vaccine is based on disease organisms obtained from the wounds of heavily infected patients. Developed at the Indian Council for Research in Bombay, the vaccine has been committed already to clinical trials and publishing its immunological and healing qualities.

The British breakthrough came with the discovery that the leprosy organism flourishes in the body of the rare, nine-banded armadillo, a creature native to the Americas. It has taken years to obtain sufficient quantities of the organism extracted from infected tissues and to produce the material for human experiments. Now the vaccine has been developed at the National Institute of Medical Research in London in conjunction with the Microbiological Research Establishment at Porton Down.

Dr Jacinto Convit, a WHO scientist who whose direction a vaccine has been administered to leprosy patients in Venezuela, reports "spectacular" improvement in the condition of infected patients. The drug has apparently reversed the weakened natural immune response of the patients.

The present trials in Norway and North America involve the exposure of healthy males to leprosy. The vaccine comprises whole killed leprosy bacilli. The Northern Hemisphere has been chosen for the trials because it is virtually free of the disease whose presence might otherwise confound the results. There is no shortage of volunteers.

(Observer News Service)



All Things Considered

Joyce Abu Jassar

The big countdown

THE BIG countdown has begun. Parents with children and children with parents know what I'm talking about... how many days are left until school begins.

No matter how much you love your children there are times when this noble emotion wears thin. Or maybe it is just obscured by the irritation created by the constant sound of the stereo blaring through the house from the time they wake at 10 am until the time the television comes on in the afternoon.

And why do they insist on playing the same tape over and over and over again. That punk rocker shouting out, "why don't you beat it, beat it," brings alternating pictures into your mind of either skipping out of the house before you even fix them their lunch or of taking to the stereo with a blunt instrument. But then you remember that they are still several more payments to make on the thing so it would be unwise to carry out your fantasy.

"Turn it down," you groan as you go into the bathroom to clear out the damp towels and soggy swimsuits dumped there from the trip to the pool. Never mind, you won't have to listen to it when you take the other kids to their friends and then bring them back. And while you are doing all this taxing no one will be asking you, "What am I going to do?" See, things aren't really that bad. Besides there are only a few days left till school starts.

And there are two sides to every coin and children do have problems too. After all, how many times can you go swimming before you start growing webs between your fingers and toes. Besides it isn't all that much fun since your friends left on vacation. Why can't your family take a tour of Europe like that kid Johnny that is in your class at school did with his family? Why do your parents always put the damper on your best ideas with that same "can't afford it" phrase?

Why can't they understand that there is really only one tape that turns you on? And that you can't really enjoy it when they expect you to play it at a whisper. Besides, the stereo that you have in your house isn't half as nice as the one the neighbours have. And why did your mum get so nervous when you suggested that your set could be traded in for the other model? It would be so much fun to turn up the volume all the way and watch the vibrations shake the pictures down from the walls. Why don't your parents have any sense of humour?

And when you go to them to see if they have any fresh ideas activity-wise, just ask them the simple question, "What am I going to do?" they scream at you, "Clean out your room." "Clean out your room!" Is that any way to spend your vacation? May as well be back in school if that is what is going to happen.

How many days are left till it begins?

Would you believe it?

COAL MERCHANT Lew Miles acted quickly when his daughter Louise told him tearfully that she had lost her job at the local baker's shop in Goring, England.

He bought the bakery and installed her as boss.

Now the previous owner turns out bread and cakes to the orders of 20-year-old Louise.

A GROCERY shop is being sued for \$271,000, because it sold five books of matches to two young boys who started a fire that burned down a furniture warehouse, in New Jersey, USA.

The suit was by the insurers of the warehouse against Vic's Market, where Walter Teabour, 9, and Jason Cray, 12, bought the matches.

NEIL McDONAGH, tired of being listed among hundreds of Mac's in the telephone book, has changed his name to Zebedee Zzypp.

"I wanted a name to end all names, one that just had to be the last in the directory," said Zzypp, 29, a catering manager in Comber near Belfast, Northern Ireland.

OPEN WAR has been declared against thousands of wild hamsters which are devastating crops in 40 communes in Alsace, eastern France.

One hamster stores up to 30 kilos (66 pounds) of cereals for the winter.

Zooming away from the boss

By Rosalind Russell

THE CRACKLE of the motorbike messengers' radios is a familiar feature of London life. Yet, dressed in the leather livery of their companies, the riders are — like G.K. Chesterton's postman — always there but never noticed.

They're the motorbike men from outer space, alien in the air-conditioned office, faceless in their helmets, and usually dismissively treated by receptionists everywhere.

At lunchtime, as they congregate in their territorial meeting places, the shock of seeing them barcheaded jolts back memories of the day Dr Who took the lid off a Dalek.

"We usually meet up in Baker Street," said 27-year-old Michael Davis, grandson of antiques expert Arthur Negus. Michael used to be personnel manager of a large London hotel. "I only intended to take a year off," he told me, "but I got hooked."

The riders are attracted to the job by the dream of freedom from bosses, and the high pay prospects. They promise to deliver anything but babies.

Twenty-four-year-old Nina Watson is one of about 40 female motorbike messengers in London. She's been a courier about three years, and sees nothing unfeminine in her job.

"More women should ride bikes," she declared, tossing back her shoulder length dark hair. "But most bikes are designed by men, and they're too high for girls. Someone should design a bike for us."

Nina is a distinctive sight around London. Her trade-mark is a Davy Crockett-type furry tail attached to her helmet.

"Bike riding is romantic and free," she enthused. "And a lot better than my last job, which was gutting fish. My boyfriend doesn't think I'm unfeminine, although other boys have been intimidated by me."



Courier Nina Watson: 'Bike riding is romantic and free'

You don't have to be invincible to be a messenger, but you do occasionally have to have a strong stomach.

"It's not unknown for them to carry bits of bodies for spare part surgery," said Richard Benson. "And one of our riders had to carry the ashes of a cremated body."

A certain company in the City might be interested to know about one of their extravagant employees ordering a bike to take a full glass of champagne (covered by Cling-film) to a chum in another building. And the course of true love ran a little smoother

(London Express Service)

Numbness

Sometimes my feet get numb and feel that way for a day or two then they get better. It doesn't bother me too much yet my wife tells me to see a doctor about it.

sudden dizziness, visual disturbances or may occur at the site of injury if you have been bitten by an animal in the past year. Visit your doctor and report the numbness and any other complaints that you have.

The only numbness that does not need investigation is the temporary kind due to local pressure as when you have been sitting with your legs underneath you and they have "gone to

Health by Joyce Niles

sleep". This condition resolves itself spontaneously upon removal of pressure.

Joyce Niles is a member of the American Medical Writers Association.

Macaroni cheese with a difference

Ingredients

- 100 grammes macaroni
- one 300 gramme can Italian plum tomatoes
- 2 eggs
- 100 grammes mature cheddar cheese
- 25 grammes plain flour
- 1/4 litre soured cream (or half and half soured cream and plain yoghurt)
- salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method

- Heat the oven to 375
- Drop the macaroni into a pan of salted boiling water and cook for about two thirds the usual time (The pasta will continue to cook in the oven)
- Liquidise the tomatoes and their juices to a puree and season generously
- Pour the puree into a gratin dish, add the well-drained macaroni and toss to mix well
- Break the eggs into a bowl, add the grated cheddar and beat with a fork to a paste
- Then tip in the flour, the soured cream, some salt and pepper and continue beating for half a minute or until everything is mixed well
- Spoon the mixture gently over the macaroni, taking it right up to the edges of the dish.
- Bake for 35 to 40 minutes until the topping feels just firm in the centre, is pulled up and golden
- Serve immediately with a large fresh green salad
- The same topping can be used for cauliflower cheese, shepherd's pie etc.

Just Between Us

Ya'qoub Salim



The delicate art of office engraving

AT THE RISK of being accused of commercial bias, I hereby venture to state that the fine-point pen — the kind with the yellow barrel — is definitely the best tool for office instrument engraving.

This statement comes after years of experience with that brand and others, during which I have found that the fine-point combination of sharpness, durability and good ink flow suit it to the task.

This is serious business, as I'm sure many of my readers will acknowledge. If, like me, you are condemned to work with forgetful or downright larcenous officinates, then you have probably also been driven to labelling your desk items in an attempt to stop their disappearance.

Merely to write one's name on a piece of paper and then affix it to the stapler, ruler, adhesive tape holder, telephone or chair is not enough to prevent someone else's wandering off with it. The name can easily be removed, in that case, through neglect or foul play. It has to be indelibly inscribed, and this is where the office engraver's art comes in.

Most of these items are made of, or have parts made of, hard plastic. The name can be carved into this plastic by repeated strokes of a pen or other sharp implement. But a knife blade is not recommended, as the line it inscribes is generally too thick to be noticed, and besides, knives have been known to hurt people. (For some, the temptation to follow one's vocation to its logical end and carve their name or initials on their forehead is too great.)

At first, the ballpoint pen is difficult to control on the hard and shiny surface. A great deal of concentration is required, as you must press hard enough to indent the plastic while keeping your line from going out of control. After a while the pen becomes easier to control in the groove you've started, and you can press harder and harder.

When it really gets down in there, the ball roughens the surface in the groove and this rough surface will absorb ink from the pen. After repeated strokes, your name will appear in big bold letters on your surface, and you can be assured that no one will ever again "forget" the item was yours (the reaction of your employer, who originally paid for it, is another matter).

A word of warning: The high pressure and delicate control used in engraving office implements has been known to cause some severe cases of writer's camp, leading even to hospitalisation. You might also be liable to get sent to another kind of hospital — the kind where people write their names on things all day for "therapy". But this is fun, so be nice to the little men in white coats when they come to get you.

And the show did go on

By Kathy Kakish
Star Staff Writer

● An actor performing with a broken leg? That was the situation Joel Aroeste found himself during the last two performances of the Empire State Institute for the Performing Arts' production of "Sleeping Beauty" at Jerash.

As the saying goes, "The show must go on." Joel followed that line. Performing as the elderly narrator of the play, Joel had his role changed a little after an unfortunate slip forced him to hop about on crutches.

Instead of walking onto the stage on cue, he was comfortably seated at a corner of the stage, and narrated the fairy tale in such a way that the audience felt they had come to spend an evening with long-bearded "granda" who is famous for his entertaining stories.

Joel's accident happened just after the first performance last Saturday. He thought that the easiest and quickest way to leave the stage was by jumping off. The idea might have worked had his leg not got caught, making him land heavily on the other one and to a broken leg.

The cartilage and ligaments of his leg were torn and the doctors advised him to have it looked at again for further treatment as soon as he reaches home. Rest is what it needs but it is rest that Joel would not take.

"The director offered to have me sent straight to the States," he said. "He said that they could get someone else to read my lines written off from a script." But Joel wanted to keep the show going as it always has. "I felt that I had to, try, so I decided to stay because it would be better for the show and better for me — I don't want to feel that I let everyone down," he said.

Joel is a wonderful person to meet. Not only does his deep voice reach out, but also his personality and sense of humor. At the very first meeting he makes you feel as if you were an old friend.

As for the following shows, he surprised the audience when at the end, he



got up from his chair and hoped to the centre of the stage with the help of his crutches. After bowing along with the group, he left the stage as quickly as he could showing a certain embarrassment. Happily the accident hasn't dulled his impressions of Jordan. "It's wonderful," he said. "The people are very nice and are always willing to help." It seems that he is not alone in his feelings. Patricia Giola, the ESI-PA's public relations assistant, told The Star that she was amazed by the tremendous hospitality of the Jordanian people. "We've been treated as royalty," she said. "Our guides are so nice and very helpful."

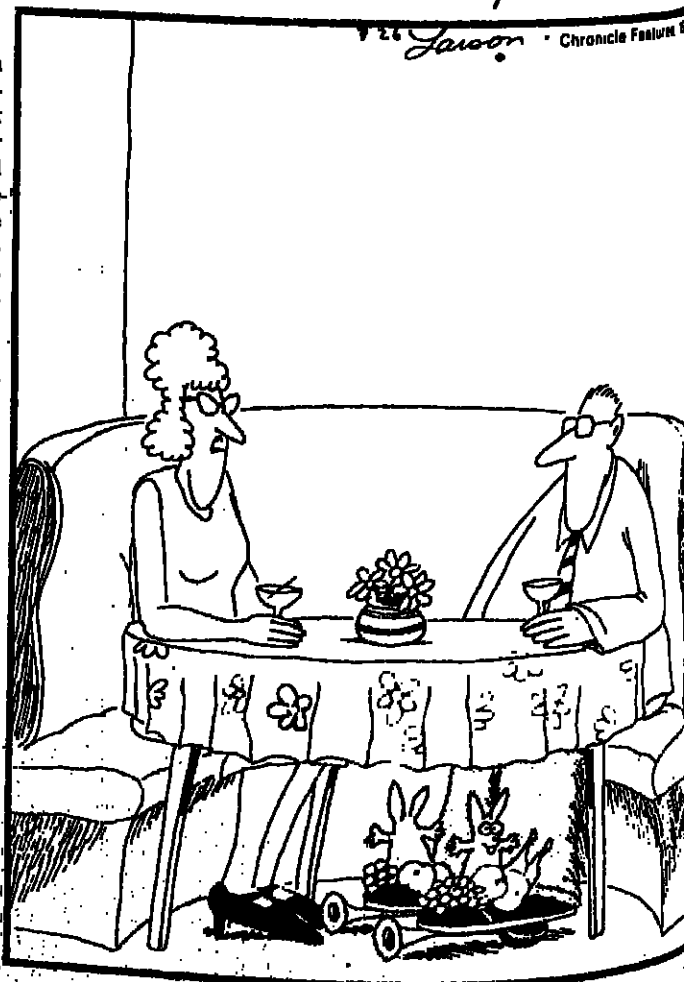
Carolyn Wright, also a public relations assistant, said that she was struck

by the architecture of Jordan, a blend of the ancient and the modern, very impressive, the people are hospitable and we are all glad the group was invited to perform here.

● Director-General of Adm. newspaper Mahmud El-Sharif, Korak this week to deliver a lecture to the Professional Associations Complex. He spoke on the rapid development of the press in Jordan and its role in the social development of the country.

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"I judge a man by the shoes he wears, Jerry."

Here come the Shishan Kids



The Shishan Kids ready for action.

Story and photos by Joyce Abu Jassar

WALID NURI SHUMSEDIN is 15 years old. He and his friends, The Shishan Kids Troupe, danced at the Jerash Festival this week. He told us about how they prepared for the show, dances they know and the costume he wears.

"There are 12 kids in my group which was formed especially for the Jerash Festival. We practiced for two hours every day to get ready and can do several kinds of dances," Walid said.

"First there are the Fursan (Knights) dances, we have about five kinds of those and then there are other group dances portraying War and Respect. And some where one boy dances by himself.

"There are also kinds where a boy and girl dance together, but our group is only boys so we didn't do those for the festival.

"All young Shishan boys learn these dances and we regularly do them at weddings, parties and other happy occasions," he said.

"Our special soft leather boots are called Maasish and are worn for dancing only. They even have soft soles. There weren't any here in Jordan so boots for all the boys were brought from Caucasasia in the Soviet Union," he continued.

Walid's Tchu, or tunic, has little pockets that hold silver-capped gunpowder capsules that were used to load the old-fashioned muzzle-loader rifles. The capsules came from Caucasasia, too. Dangling



Walid Nuri Shumseidin in his splendid costume

from Walid's belt is his shelt, or dagge. It is used in some of the dances.

Walid's Kuwi, or hat, is made from lambskin and also comes from his ancestors' homeland.

"This kuwi is a symbol of honour. We remove it to dance so it won't accidentally fall to the ground. That would be a big shame," he said. A high-collared white shirt and black trousers complete Walid's costume.

We hope you had a chance to see the "Shishan Kids Troupe" at the opening of the basketball game on 5 August at the Royal Sports Palace or at the Jerash Festival. If not, look for them again in the near future.

Poetry Corner

This moving poem is from Mazin Michael Zaharan. Mazin is a student at the National Orthodox School Amman.

By Mazin Michael Zaharan
A SONG OF HOPE

The night was lifting
As day began to cast its shadow
And in an instant
The two were as one
The nightingale sat on my right
And to my left was perched the lark
And each one to the other began to sing
The song of life
I closed my eyes
And emptied my soul
And was lifted on the wings of hope
The hope to learn the secrets of life
The hope to find a state of peace
Higher and higher above the clouds
I rose
And when I opened my eyes
I thought that the heavens
Had engulfed me
Perched as I was on the wings
Of the two birds
Flying through the mighty sky
All around me I saw beauty
The trees were tall and green
Each one more perfect than the other
The wild flowers covered the ground
Just like a Persian rug
The lakes were deep blue
Like the skies above
Never had I witnessed such beauty
Never had I felt so peaceful
So at ease with myself
I asked the birds where I was
They told me I was in a world
Not yet known to man
A world for those who want
To love and live in peace
They told me that it was their land
We then flew on
Through the brilliant skies
And up ahead in the distance
I saw a wall

A wall of darkness
I felt uneasy, insecure
As we drew closer
The beauty began to disappear
Then I was surrounded
By fires and smoke
I heard screams and shouts
In the background
I felt death and hatred
Again I asked the birds where I was
They told me that I was
In a world once beautiful
But now a world for those who want to
Kill and cheat
Lie and deceive
They told me
That I was in my own world.
I closed my eyes and began to cry
I felt so sad for my fellow man
What evil doings had they done
to one another
For how long had they neglected beauty
How involved in their success
had they become
To not notice their failure to learn
the secrets of life
When I opened my eyes again
I was where I had been before
Nothing had changed
No time had passed
Soon the sun crept over the horizon
Night was no more
Day had broken through
It was as if nothing had happened
Then I looked up
And saw the birds fly over me
Towards the sky they aimed
Singing the song of life
A song containing hope
A hope they had given me.



HE WAS
8 FPMTE
JPO KAPMIM
AND THE TEAM
HE PLAYED
FOR WAS
CALLED
KBQTPK.



FIT THE QUESTIONS
TO THE NUMBERS.

HOW MANY DALMATIONS
IN THE FILM?
DATE OF BATTLE OF
BANNOCKBURN?
SQUARE ROOT OF 81?
HOW MANY GOOD MEN
AND TRUE?



Solution
Pele was a
world
soccer and he
played for Santos
15, as op-
posite sides of
dice always add
up to seven
101 Dalmations
1314 Ban-
nockburn
9 square
root of 81
12 in a jury

Our Fascinating EARTH

BY PHILIP SEFF, PH.D. & DAVID BAER, II

A WORLD OF LOST PYRAMIDS

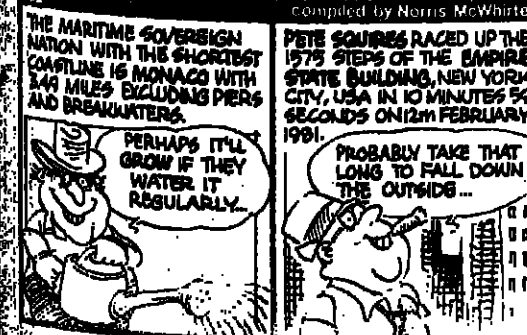
IT WILL PROBABLY NEVER BE KNOWN JUST HOW MANY PYRAMIDS WERE BUILT BY PRE-COLOMBIAN INDIANS. ALTHOUGH MANY HAVE BEEN CLEARED OF THE ENCASING VEGETATION AND RE-CONSTRUCTED...



...SO MANY MORE ARE SIMPLY MOUNDS BURIED BENEATH THE THICK SHROUD OF THE JUNGLE. STAGGERING NUMBERS OF PYRAMIDS ARE BELIEVED TO EXIST! SCIENTISTS HAVE ESTIMATED IN MEXICO ALONE SOME 100,000 PYRAMIDS ARE YET TO BE UNCOVERED!

It's a record

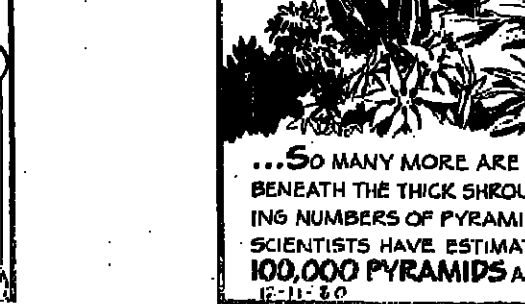
From the Guinness Book of Records compiled by Norris McWhirter



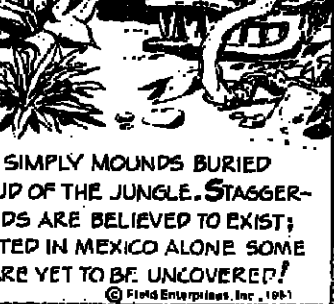
ALAN PETTIGREW THREW A HANDED (MINIMUM HEIGHT 10 3/4") 165 POUNDS 95 INCHES AT THE ABBOTSBURY HIGHLAND GAMES ON 14th JULY 1981.



PETE SOURCES RACED UP THE 1975 STEPS OF THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING, NEW YORK CITY, USA IN 10 MINUTES 50 SECONDS ON 12th FEBRUARY 1991.



SOME PEOPLE WOULD JUST RUSH IT ASIDE AND BAT THEIR CHIPS...



sport

'Opel Manta' wins Jordan rally

By Hamdan Al-Haj
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Saeed Al-Hajri driving an Opel Manta 400 won this year's Jordan rally. Saeed and his co-driver navigator John Spiller were the first to cross the finishing line at the Amman Marriott Hotel at about 9.30 pm.

Abdullah Al-Majid from the United Arab Emirates came second and the third position was taken by the Manager of the Marriott Hotel Haile Aguilar and his son Fitz.

In all, seven of the 26 cars which entered the competition could reach the finishing point at the end of the two days. The most fancied competitor Michael Saleh from Kuwait was hit with bad luck at stage 21 when his car broke down.

The 1500 kilometre rally had 950 kilometres as special stages covering tracks through pine forests and wadis (valleys). On the first day of the rally only 13 out of the 26 cars reached Aqaba to begin the second stage.

The other 13 withdrew for various reasons. One of the women competitors Gloria Batayneh told the Star she had to withdraw as a result of an electrical fault in her car.

Saeed Hajri in a comment noted that the Jordan rally was one of the most difficult and dangerous. He said the Ma'an stage was the most crucial throughout the rally.



Saeed Hajri stands by his Opel Manta after the rally

One his part, Haile Aguilar said more cars broke down than expected because of the toughness of the competition. He added that in international rallies the percentage of breakdowns is about 30.

The 1983 Jordan rally was organised by the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan in co-operation with the Amman Marriott Hotel. Meanwhile Marriott Hotel on Tuesday held a special luncheon for sports writers in appreciation of their efforts to cover the rally.

Giant leap at an old record

CARL LEWIS (right) soars through the air on his way to the second best long jump in history — 8.794 metres at the USA/Mohi Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Indianapolis, Indiana. This was only (114 millimetres) shorter than the long-standing world record set in 1968 by Bob Beamon of the United States at the Olympic Games in Mexico City. Lewis, a 22-year-old junior at the University of Houston, Texas, also holds the second fastest 100-metre dash title with a time of 9.96 seconds, a hundredth of a second slower than the world record of American Jim Hines, also set at the 1968 Games.



At the recent World Field and Track Championships in Helsinki, Lewis won three gold in the 200 metre race, the long jump and, 4x100 metre relay. Lewis expects to compete in the 200-metre dash and 400-metre relay, in the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

(USIA)

Lubna Hawash

Jordanians fare well at tennis contest

AMMAN (Star) — The Jordanian table tennis team currently participating in the Arab championship in Morocco is chalking successes.

The first gold medal for Jordan was won Tuesday by Lubna Hawash in the juniors division.

Five other Jordanian players qualified for the semi-finals Tuesday. They were Marwan Dia, Abdul-Aziz Rida, Zilad Nuwar, Sawwan Battikhi and Jacqueline Duqum.

Gymnastics competition begins on Friday

AMMAN (Star) — Syria has confirmed that it will participate in the Arab gymnastics championship beginning on Friday 19 August. The Syrian squad of 23 includes Adnan Hourri, Adel Hamdan, and Hala Mughrabli who participated in the world championship in Helsinki.

The Arab Gymnastics Federation Tuesday held a meeting at the Regency Hotel to welcome the various delegations. The Vice-President of the Federation Dr Rashdan expressed gratitude to Jordan for hosting this year's competition.



HELSINKI — Steve Cram of Great Britain (325) heads to the finishing line of the men's 1500 metres race to win it on Sunday, and capturing the gold medal ahead of place, Britain's Steve Ovett (341) is the world record holder in the event but placed fourth in this race. (AP Photo)

Fun And Fitness

Cryotherapy

WITHIN THE past ten years sports enthusiasts have been "come out of the walls." The desire to become physically fit has turned into a worldwide passion. Consequently, there has been an ever-increasing need for proper diet, training, and personal medical knowledge. Even with the advent of sophisticated equipment and training procedures, one medical practice used since ancient Greece is that of cryotherapy (ice therapy). Before the time of Hippocrates, who was to become the "father of modern medicine," ice and cold water were used as valuable modalities for treating fever, hemorrhage, and to reduce swelling and pain. Since its use, ice therapy has been found to be beneficial in treating injuries to bones, muscles, and connective tissues and the skin.

Initial injury management consists of rest, ice, compression and elevation. The combination of these four treatments is sometimes referred to as R.I.C.E. therapy. All four are designed to decrease hemorrhage and reduce swelling at the injury site. Rest, the first order of business in caring for an injury must start immediately. Continued exercise or use may aggravate the injury and prolong the recovery time.

Ice, or cold application, is the most helpful tool during the initial injury treatment and should begin as soon as possible. Besides its ability to cause vasoconstriction, cold decreases inflammation, muscle spasms and pain (numbing effect). By immediate application of cold, there is less destruction due to swelling. In turn, this allows for a more efficient lymphatic drainage and the healing process begins.

Both compression and elevation help to decrease the amount of bleeding into the injured area. If left uncontrolled, swelling will retard the healing process. Elevation of the injured limb also helps the body to remove excess fluids such as blood and interstitial fluids which are released at an injury site.

R.I.C.E. therapy should continue until hemorrhaging has stopped and the injury begins to heal. This time may range from 15 to 72 hours. A schedule of 15-20 minutes of ice, three to five times per day, should be followed until swelling subsides. Extreme caution should be used when applying ice to the skin. Ice is recommended that ice be placed in a plastic bag, then the ice is not applied directly to the skin.

Ice treatment is not just limited to initial injury management, but is also used during post-injury rehabilitation in physical therapy clinics. Findings indicate that cold application initiates vasoconstriction followed by periods of vasodilation. Therefore, the application of cold to the area of injury for time periods longer than 15 minutes will promote enhanced blood flow and healing.

The use of cryotherapy with sport and exercise-related injuries has never been greater. Ice therapy is easy to use, inexpensive and is a valuable tool in the initial treatment of injuries as well as during the rehabilitation process.

Do you have any questions about fitness? If so, write to US Sports Academy, 8630, Mobile, Alabama.

Intimate Starcasts

By Henry Arnold

Week commencing 18 August, 1983

CAPRICORN — December 21st to January 19th



This is a week in which work appears to be both detailed and tedious, but socially, you should be very happy. You should make certain that you plan your time and your activities wisely this coming week. There is little doubt that you will be very popular with most people around you, and a person of the opposite sex should show how proud and happy they are to be with you.

AQUARIUS — January 20th to February 18th



A close friend or relative will put a word in for you in a high place - make certain that you keep this confidential, otherwise you could let them down. At the same time, you will have a hunch about someone of the opposite sex which you would do well to follow, because it will be accurate. Don't make rash promises which could cause you additional cash outlay. You would do much better to stick to routine this week.

PISCES — February 19th to March 20th



You would be very well advised to take things easy during this coming week, and concentrate on routine matters. You will be especially contented with a plan which a close friend has in mind for you, plus the fact that you will find yourself much in demand by a member of the opposite sex. This is an ideal working week, and also a good week for you to get together with relatives.

ARIES — March 21st to April 20th



You have a peaceful and happy week ahead of you, and also one in which you can plan for the future holiday, or ambition-wise in a clever fashion, so get busy making your arrangements as early as you possibly can. Romantic luck comes to you in an unexpected fashion this week, and consequently, you realise that a member of the opposite sex thinks highly of you. A difference of opinion could occur with a relative, but this will soon right itself.

TAURUS — April 21st to May 20th



The change around of colleagues at work is indicated at some time during this week, and this could make things much better for you all round. You would do very well to keep in close contact with others, and state your ideas and aims for your mutual benefit. Make certain that you handle your correspondence wisely, and get errands done which are necessary. Where romance is concerned, this appears to take a turn for the better.

GEMINI — May 21st to June 20th



A fairly hard-going week is indicated for you, which will need your complete attention, even to the tiniest detail. The coming week should prove to be valuable for getting a helpful business associate to come around to your way of thinking. You could receive an unexpected present from an appreciative friend that you have recently helped. At home, you may find yourself having to be rather firm with an elderly relative.

CANCER — June 21st to July 21st



You may have to remember to try not to be over-bearing with those who are close to you this week. You could be feeling rather tired and therefore just a little snappy. There is little doubt that a smile from you will work wonders. You have a good week for putting a plan which you may have had in mind for some time into operation. Opportunity appears to knock more than once for you this week. Your evenings appear to be very happy.

LEO — July 22nd to August 21st



You have a happy week ahead of you, and can afford to be more optimistic. Try to say something to the one you love, for they need to be told. Also, a friend of yours may be going through a rather difficult period. Give them help if you can. During this coming week, remember that it pays to be a good listener to those around you. There could be slight atmosphere at home, but you would do well not to get involved.

VIRGO — August 22nd to September 21st



Don't let about too much during this coming week, for this is a time to abolish boring chores and routines. You should find time to enjoy your own and the company of loved ones during the evenings of this coming week. This is a period when people of your own sex could turn out to be more helpful to you and much more encouraging. Expect some definite action regarding a change which you may have been wanting to make at work.

LIBRA — September 22nd to October 22nd



A close person or relative may have made a promise to you. Wait until that promise has been fulfilled until you stick your neck out a second time. Do not allow yourself to be rushed into making changes which you do not feel that you can handle at this time. You could expect just a little bother from a colleague with a rather hasty temperament. Remember that it is only their nerves. Where your financial position is concerned, there could be extra for you.

SCORPIO — October 23rd to November 21st



You should have an excellent opportunity during this coming week to be with those people that you love, and have quite a lot of fun, but also the chance to talk over more clearly just what is in your mind. There will be talk of a change of residence, but this could be for much later in the year. There is the possibility of extra responsibility for you, and quite a lot piled on your shoulders, workwise.

SAGITTARIUS — November 22nd to December 20th



You should receive some extra encouragement at work regarding individual efforts during this week. Success from your creative ability assists you to advance an ambitious idea of yours which you have had in mind. This is a week in which you would do well to do most of the listening and not stating your point of view too clearly. In the evenings of this week, you have unexpected enjoyment brought about through an old friend.

Thursday 18 August

Birthday Greetings to You. In the financial field, whilst you are not going to make an absolute fortune, the portents are that you are going to be able to meet demands made upon you without any undue pressure, and by the time you have reached December time, should be able to afford a few little extra luxuries.

Someone you meet on a journey at some time throughout this coming year will prove to be an excellent friend, but you are basically a worrier, and I can assure you that for the next twelve months, there is absolutely no need for this.

Where your health is concerned, this appears to be very good throughout most of the coming twelve months, but do not take any undue risks in the sporting field, as there are indications of very slight accidents occurring.

Friday 19 August

Birthday Greetings to You. You could be spending a little money on either a car or caravan during the coming twelve months, but this will be well spent because of the happiness it will bring you.

Around December or January period, a younger person around you could anger you by their impulsive action, but do not let this worry you, because they will very soon settle down — it is just a phase which they are going through.

The indications are that you have a fairly even year ahead of you, but there could be some changes made in the home. Try to bear in mind that you can be at times, a little too possessive with your loved ones. An older person around you will help you towards achieving a goal which you have had in mind for some time past.

Saturday 20 August

Birthday Greetings to You. You will find during this coming year that people who have dark eyes, such as hazel, brown and green will be those that you can rely upon during the coming twelve months. It will be the people with blue or grey eyes that you will have to watch slightly, because they could be slightly weaker, and their promises may not always be met.

The indications are that everybody wants you to be doing things for them during the coming year, and there will be times when you will have to close a blind eye to requests, but do not let this worry you, because it can only bring you greater respect. By December period, affairs should be running smoothly in most directions, and you could well find yourself wishing that there were more than twenty four hours to each day.

Birthday Information Charts

Monday 22 August

Birthday Greetings to You. Someone who is close to you who has been going through a period of strain will undoubtedly need the occasional boost from you which gives them confidence, but this you know so very well how to do.

You appear to have a very interesting twelve months ahead of you, and could unintentionally find yourself entering into a partnership with a person of your own sex which could prove to be quite lucrative for you, and consequently by mid-winter, you will be thinking of changing where you now live.

The only two months that I would warn you to take things easy and not to deviate from your usual way of things are September and June — these could be rather frustrating months.

Tuesday 23 August

Birthday Greetings to You. There could be a slight argument for you during the coming twelve months about an insurance policy which you hold. A lady around you who is a good friend does appear to be inclined to talk just a little too much, so you would be very well advised to keep your confidence during the next few months. There is little doubt that by February period, you will be feeling greatly relieved concerning a younger person around you who can be very stubborn, for by that time, they will be seeing your point of view.

Someone in your family could talk of wanting to cross the water on a permanent basis. Better for you to let them make up their own mind regarding this.

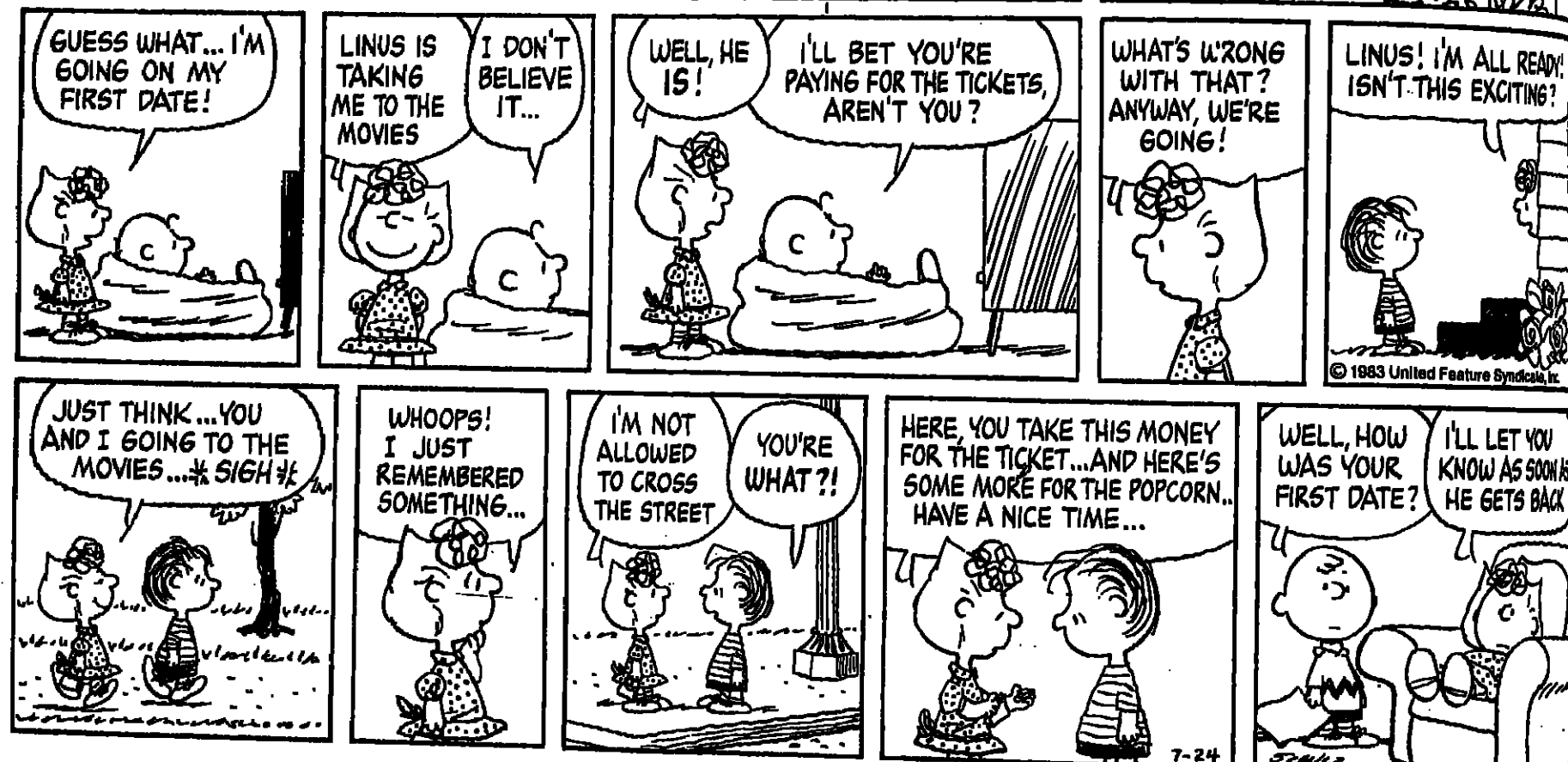
Wednesday 24 August

Birthday Greetings to You. You should be surprised during the coming twelve months to find that you have more people around you that you can rely on, and tell things to, than you had thought, and these will be genuine as well.

A member of your family who in the past has been inclined to be rather greedy will be much better now, due to their having someone around them who has a good influence on them. If you are thinking of changing where you now live, then the spring period is the best time, and you will be able to tackle the job of moving with greater ease and peace of mind at that time. A member of the opposite sex who can be rather moody, and difficult at times, in reality thinks the world of you, although they are not very demonstrative, they will show just how highly they think of you during the coming twelve months.

PEANUTS

featuring
"Good ol'
Charlie Brown"
by SCHULZ



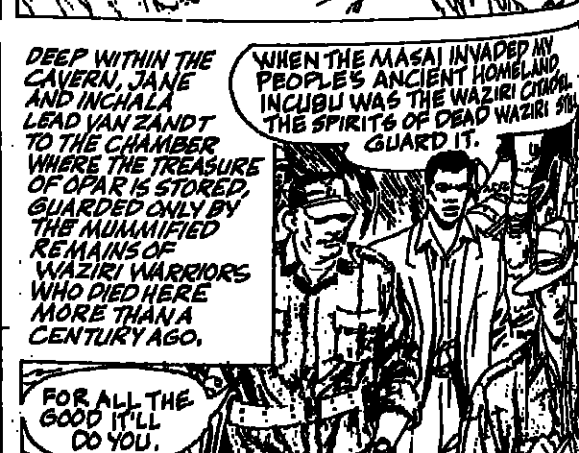
TARZAN AND THE WAZIRI PURSUE VAN ZANDT'S MERCENARIES ACROSS THE WILDTOWNSHIP OF THE FOREST AND MOUNTAINS NORTH OF THE GREYSTOKE ESTATE. THERE, MOUNT INCUBU HOLDS COURT IN SILENT MAJESTY. THERE, THEY MUST RESCUE JANE AND INCUBU, OR DIE IN THE ATTEMPT!

Tarzan

by EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS



AFTER REFUELING AT VAN ZANDT'S BASE CAMP, THE MERCENARIES' HELICOPTERS DESCEND INTO THE MOUTH OF THE DORMANT VOLCANO, MOUNT INCUBU.



FRANK AND ERNEST

